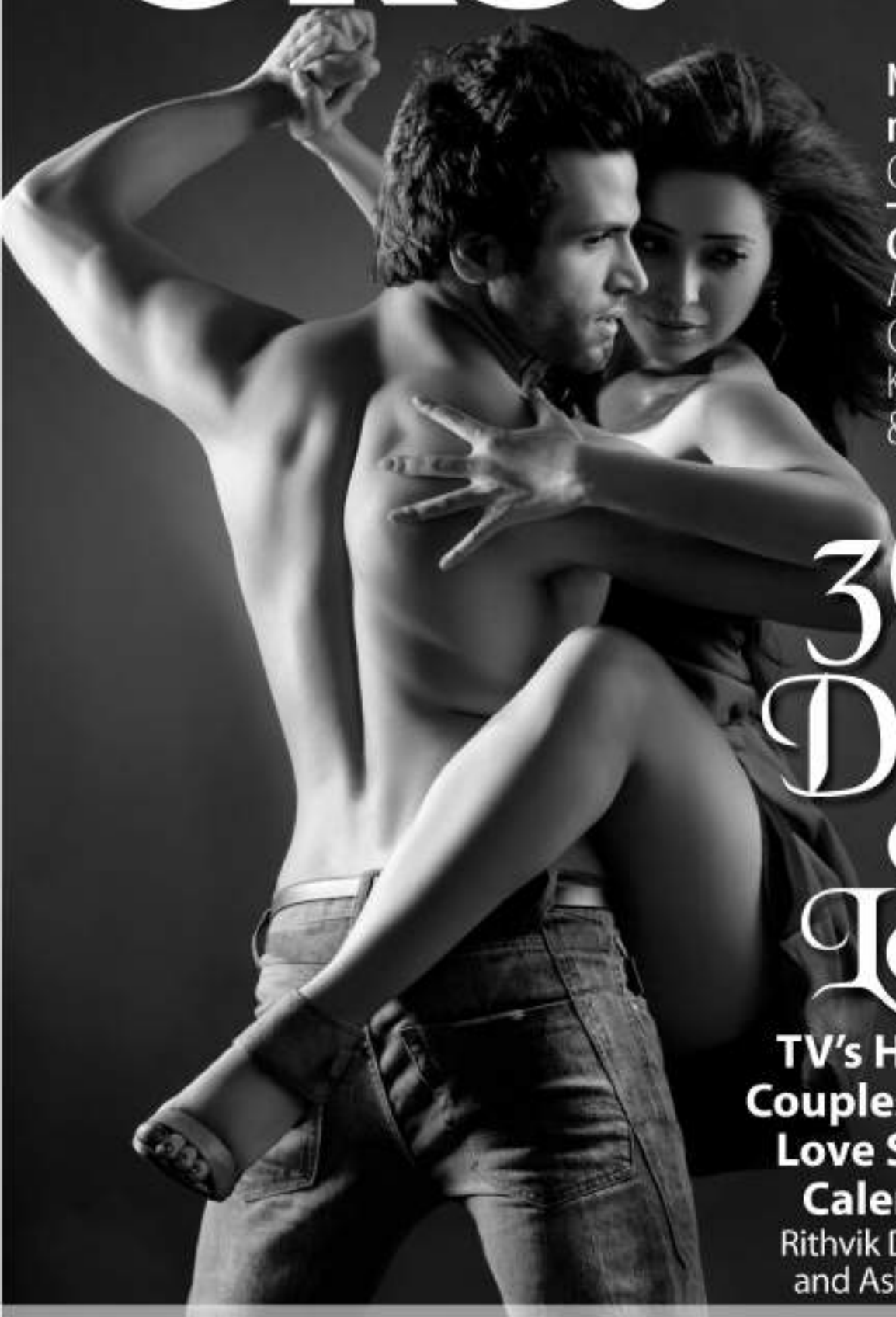
GR8!

January 2014 | ₹125/- | Vol. 11 No.05

Your monthly
MUST READ!



No one night stands
Gauhar Khan

Crime Busters
Anoop Soni, Gaurav Chopraa, Kavita Kaushik & Karan Kundra

365 Dates of Love

TV's Hottest Couples in GR8 Love Stories Calendar!
Rithvik Dhanjani and Asha Negi

INDIA'S #1 SELLING TELEVISION MAGAZINE



Pic.: Sachin Narkar

Let's hit 2014 for a Six!

Another month, another year, the concluding chapter of 2013 comes to a close. As always, life's been beautiful but optimism and hope being an intrinsic part of my nature, I can't help but say that I'm looking forward to heaps more and to better times coming my way in 2014. Yes, we've all come a long way baby, but like me, I'm certain there's many of you who believe that there is so much still to be done and thus, here's wishing the coming year encompasses all of our work getting accomplished, all of our efforts bearing fruition and all of our ultimate hopes and dreams getting realized. Happy 2014 everybody!

Looking back, 2013 was an interesting year that saw transformation of many kinds taking place, from our cricket team and our political classes to our attitude, our beliefs, our convictions and our mindsets. We've become more confident as a people; we're discovering our birthrights, we understand the power of these rights now and we're leaving no stone unturned in fighting till we get them. We're standing up against dishonesty; exploitation, immorality and corruption of any kind are not acceptable any longer. It doesn't matter where you come from, how financially well off or how politically connected you are, you are no longer a "nobody". We're all equal now, in the eyes of the law and in the eyes of each other and total thanks for this goes to our 24-hour New Channels. Our TV media has become the crusader of the day and everyone knows the channels can be counted on to help get timely justice. Even if they are not approached, culprits know they are accessible and that is making all watch their steps. Kudos to all my friends in all the TV News Channels in every language across the nation! You've done a fantastic job. Keep it up and always stay rational and impartial… We need you!

Other than that, lots of excitement coming from the sets of the *Bigg Boss*, Kapil Sharma and Anil Kapoor in the *desi* version of *24*. *India's Got Talent* is rocking too with circus acrobats and professionals performing for the first time on Indian TV. Star World Premiere too has stolen quite a few eyeballs away from other channels with popular American shows coming to us simultaneously as they air in the US. Talking of "stolen", Star World Premiere has taken away quite a bit of business of Internet providers too. Lesser people are downloading pirated versions of these shows now; they're all actually enjoying waiting that whole week to see the next episode. Well, it's teaching us patience for sure, if nothing else.

On that joyful note, ta-ta for now. Wish you all a terrific 2014 with loads of love, happiness and contentment coming your away… Until next time, happy reading!

Anu Ranjan

ANU RANJAN
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GR8! mail

Kapil cover was a GR8 Idea!

Kapil Sharma has become a household name after his show *Comedy Nights with Kapil* became the show of 2013 and garnered a big fan. Therefore, it was great to see him on your December cover. I was surprised to know that this was Kapil's first ever photo-shoot and cover and *GR8!* Deserves a big thank-you for coming up with this. The cover story was fun to read and gave an insight to Kapil's persona and his life, something that not many people know.

- Neha Singh, *Delhi*



Bharti Singh – GR8!, Pakistan TV hai-hai!

Up Close & Personal with Bharti Singh (*GR8!* December 2013) makes great reading because Bharti, as a successful comedian, has the confidence to make fun of herself. Which is quite an appreciable quality in a star. I wish more women would follow in her footsteps because truly, women have a better sense of humour than men but aren't open about it.

That apart, I wish like politics, cricket and films, TV serials of India and Pakistan were also used to foster better and more effective relations between the neighbours. More than what any political delegate can do, this will be like direct one-to-one contact between the people of the two countries. It is unfortunate that in Pakistan some cable operators were fined heavily for telecasting more than their permissible Indian TV channel lately, but equally heartening to know that they defined the diktat and went ahead with the telecast.

- Mahesh Kumar, *On Mail*



Nach v/s Jhalak!

Your comparison of Nach Baliye and Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa was the best article I have ever read on either of the dance reality shows. Nach and Jhalak are my favourite shows and I never miss an episode of either of them. The way you'll put the story and comparisons together is just amazing. I got a dose of nostalgia to see the pictures of the earlier seasons and to read quotes of past contestants and winners. A big thank-you *GR8!* for this article that so well researched.

- Tina Tandon, *Mumbai*

Mohit Raina's biggest fan..!

I am a regular follower of **GR8!** TV Magazine and I really love reading it as it gives an insight



on the TV actors which no newspaper, magazine or channel gives. I really like **Mohit Raina** who is seen in Devon Ke Dev... Mahadev and I request you to do some article on him.

- Deepa Shah, *Mumbai*

Celebrity corner

GR8! TV Magazine has always entertained with its good stories, articles and features. It has been an honour to be a part of the



magazine and meet the team as I share a nice and friendly rapport with them.

- Pooja Gor

Write to GR8! Publications Pvt Ltd., F6 -102, Shankar Dham, Sundervan Complex, Andheri (W), Mumbai - 400 053, India. Or e-mail : info@gr8mag.com, Website: www.gr8mag.com



Ravi Dubey & Sargun Mehta







Ravi & Sargun tie the knot...!


Aamir Ali


Simple Kaul & Addite Malik


Harshvardhan and Sunita


Shweta Kawaatra & Manav Gohil


Ajay Chaudhary


Rashami Desai


Vipin Chaudhary & Preeti Puri Chaudhary


Sudhir Sharma


Seema Sharma


Rituraj Singh


Anoop Soni


Nisha Rawal & Karan Mehra


Rakshanda Khan


Ravi Behl


Rubina Dilaik


Mazher Sayed


Mouli Ganguly


Bharti Singh


Jay Bhanushali, Sargun Mehta, Mahhi Vij, Ravi Dubey


Gautam Rode


Rahul Mahajan


Munisha Khatwani, Smita Bansal, Sargun Mehta, Mouni Roy


Karan Wahi


Nach Baliye: Sargun Mehta & Ravi Dubey


Shikha Singh

Ravi Dubey and Sargun Mehta met on the sets of Karol Bagh in Delhi and this professional association soon blossomed into love. They tied the knot on 7th of December in Sargun's home town. Chandigarh. The marriage was a lavish Punjabi affair with all the rituals and masti. Few TV actors went all the way to Chandigarh but for the many who couldn't make it, the couple threw a lavish cocktail party on 13th of December at The Club, Andheri. Ravi shares, "It feels great to be married and I am in a very happy space. Sargun completes me. We are overwhelmed with the wishes of our friends and colleagues". Sargun adds, "It's a fantastic feeling to be among all our family members and friends from the industry. We will cherish these moments forever." Who's who of the TV industry turned up to wish the lovely couple, **GR8!** Gives you a small glimpse of this beautiful and happening Tellyland Marriage.



Celebrities present at the cocktail party were Aamir Ali, Gautam Rode, Jay Bhanushali, Mahhi Vij, Srman Jain, Rishi Khurana, Smita Bansal, Mazher Sayed, Mouli Ganguly, Terence Lewis, Rithvik Dhanjani, Karan Wahi, Krip Suri, Producer Siddharth & Rahul Kumar Tewary,





Producer Seema & Sudhir Sharma, Producer Jayanti Lal Gada, Rashami Desai, Anoop Soni, Rakshanda Khan, Mouni Roy, Rubina Dilaik, Shweta Kawaatra, Manav Gohil, Shweta Kawaatra & Manav Gohil, Bharti Singh, Ajay Chaudhary, Govinda's wife Sunita and son Harshvardhan, Nisha Rawal & Karan Mehra, Simple Kaul and Addite Malik amongst many others. All the actors danced as if there is no tomorrow and had a great time. The newly married couple played the perfect hosts.

- Dharmishtha Dagia

WE Wish You Peace!

The Welingkar Institute of Management observed the fifth anniversry of 26/11 with a 'WE Wish You Peace' fashion event. Hosted by Siddharth Kannan and Rochelle Rao, the designers of this event were Nishika Lulla, Rajat Tangri and Riyaz. It was attended by a number of TV and Bollywood stars, and former Miss Indias and also Sunil Gavaskar.









AZVA LAUNCHES NEW bridal jewellery collection!

Azva by World Gold Council showcased a new range of 22kt gold bridal jewellery at the fourth edition of India Bridal Fashion Week in Mumbai. Chitrangda Singh in a spectacular Tarun Tahiliani creation, fired up the ramp.
She said, "I am happy that Azva approached me to showcase their beautiful bridal gold jewellery collection. " Sufi singer, Harshdeep Kaur performed a medley of her popular songs. Other celebs spotted were Dia Mirza, Alesia Raut and Esha Gupta amongst others.









ASHA PAREKH'S hand impression tile unveiled!



Dimple Kapadia, Shammi, Jackie Shroff, Helen, Asha Parekh, Waheeda Rehman & Jeetendra

UTV Stars' Walk of the Stars paid a tribute to yesteryear diva, Asha Parekh for her inimitable body of work in Bollywood with the launch of her hand impression tile. The tile was unveiled by the actress in the presence of close friends and celebrities of her era. This tile will be installed at the Walk Of The Stars, at the Bandra Bandstand Promenade. An emotional Asha Parekh said, "I am extremely touched by UTV Stars' gesture. I am grateful to everyone who appreciates my contribution to the Indian film industry, which I still hold very close to my heart."

Raveena Tandon & Sachin Pilgaonkar at REMI!

Raveena Tandon and Sachin Pilgaonkar judged the skits of kids from eight schools at the Young Energy Savers event organised at Reliance Energy Management Institute. Raghvendra Mehta, President Reliance Infra received all the guests who were entertained by performances of Akash and Sugandha, Indian Idol Junior. Sachin and Raveena appealed all the guests and media people to save electricity.


Sachin Pilgaonkar, Raveena Tandon, Raghvendra Mehta


Sachin Pilgaonkar & Raveena Tandon with kids


Tanisha Singh



Sajan Shetty, Ekta Jain, Akriti Nagpal, Dolly Bindra, Tanisha Singh

Welcare Spa launch!

Dr. Vachan Shetty launched Welcare saloon and spa along with his brother Sajan Shetty. Celebs spotted at the launch were Dolly Bindra, Azad Khatri, Tanisha Singh, Ekta Jain, Akriti Nagpal, Deepak Tijori, Waheed, Shradha Vajpai, MLA Krishna Hegde, Satish Shetty, Naushad, Mreenal Deshraj, Vishal and Geeta Basra who came with her sister Ruby.


Geeta Basra, Vachan Shetty & Ruby Basra


Mreenal Deshraj


Deepak Tijori

Goa Portuguesa's 25th Anniversary!

Mumbai's Goan Restobar *'Goa Portuguesa'* celebrated its 25th Anniversary along with renowned celebrities. The calorie freaky celebs relished the awards winning food churned out by Chef Deepa Suhas Awchat. Dr. Suhas Awchat along with his son Sudeep played perfect hosts and had arranged a live band for the guests'. Celebrities spotted at the silver jubilee celebration were Dilip Piramal, Anu Malik, Rohit Roy, Sanjeev Kapoor, Leena Mogre, Dilip and Manali Vengsarkar, Milind Gunaji, Ashok Salian, Kiran Shantaram, Kailash Suredranath, Rashmi Uday Singh, Varsha Usgoankar, Parvej Damni, Kiran and Ramesh Sippy, Vikas Bhalla, Sonali Kulkarni, Brinda Parekh, Shiamak Davar, Ananya Dutta, Bharat Dhabolkar, Rajkumar Santoshi and Nitin Sirdesai amongst others.


Shaimak Davar with Dr. Suhas & Deepa Awchat


Vikas Bhalla


Dilip & Manali Vengsarkar


Varsha Usgaonkar with a guest


Kailash Surendranath


Sajeev Kapoor


Rohhit Verma

Rohit Roy


Anu Malik


Ashok Salian


Bharat Dabholkar


Rajkumar Santoshi


Ramesh & Kiran Sippy


Milind Gunaji with a guest


Parvez and Roshni Damania

FRENCH KISS with Sunny Deol!


Sharib and Toshi with Sunny Deol, Prashant Kumar and Yogesh Lakhani

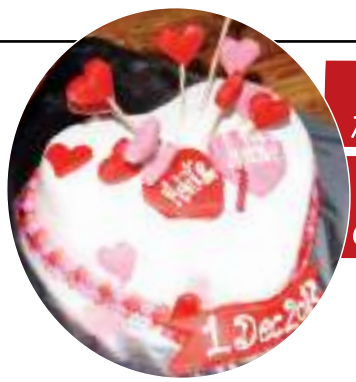

Suresh Wadkar with wife


Ashutosh Rana


Shriram


Abhijeet Sawant & Gaurav Dagaonkar

Bluenote Entertainment & Times Now launched Toshi & Sharib's debut album 'French Kiss'. The album was unveiled by Sunny Deol. Toshi & Sharib played perfect hosts and also sang few musical notes from their upcoming album. Celebs spotted at the launch were Suresh Wadkar with wife, Yogesh Lakhani, Amy Billimoria, Kavita Verma, Abhijeet Sawant, Ashutosh Rana, Gaurav Dagaonkar, Raja Hassan amongst others.



ADDITE & MOHIT MALIK'S anniversary bash!

Addite and Mohit Malik threw a small party to celebrate three years of togetherness. It was double celebration for the couple as Mohit's new show, *Doli Armaanon Ki* also launched simultaneously. After cutting the cake, Mohit surprised Addite by making a romantic speech in Marathi. Addite was on the verge of tears, listening to Mohit speak in her mother tongue. This emotional twist made way for a romantic dance. The dance floor heated up as everyone enjoyed the music and the party went on till the wee hours of the morning. Celebrities present at the bash were Divya Dutta, Juhi Parmar and Sachin Shroff, Neha Marda came with her husband, Simple Kaul, Rohit Bakshi, Rashami Desai, Pearl Grey amongst many others.


Rashami Desai with Mohit & Addite Malik


Juhi Parmar


Simple Kaul, Harsh Vasishta & Addite Malik


Divya Dutta


Neha Marda with hubby


Rohhit Verma & Shilpa Marigold


Shilpa Raj Kundra


Vivek Oberoi


Aadesh Shrivastava


Rahul Roy


Sharad Kelkar, Nigaar Z Khan & Faisal Raza Khan


Bharat and Dorris Godambe

Shilpa Raj Kundra walks as showstopper for Rohhit Verma!

Rohhit Verma in synergy with Panasonic Beauty Products presented an exuberant fashion show of his new apparel line 'A Beautiful you…Inside Out'. Marigold Watches with Rohhit Verma showcased an eclectic collection comprising of cocktail sarees, gothic collection, funky anarkalis, red carpet gowns and regal gowns. Shilpa Raj Kundra looking resplendent was the Showstopper for the evening. Miss Universe 2008 Lisa Lazarus and other top models like Jesse Randhawa, Alesia Raut, Carol Gracias, Nayonika Chatterjee, Priyanka Shah, Indrani Das, Deepti Gujral, Karishma Modi and a few others also walked the ramp. The evening saw the attendance of the crème de la crème of the industry including Vivek Oberoi, Anil Sharma, Poonam Dhillon, Bhagyashree, Sheeba Akashdeep, Bina and Talat Aziz, Nigaar Z Khan, Mouni Roy, Radhika Nanda, Karishma Tanna, Kiran Sippy, Karan Tacker, Nisha Rawal and Karan Mehra, Angad Hasija amongst many others.


Karan Mehra & Nisha Rawal


Bina & Talat Aziz


Raju Srivastava


Mouni Roy

Poonam Dhillon

Lisa Lazarus


Saumya Tandon

Jesse Randhawa & Sandip Soparrkar

Sheeba Akashdeep


Bhagyashree


Kiran Sippy

Pre-Christmas Bash for TV Stars!


Juhi Parmar with daughter


Gaurav Chopraa

Mazher Sayed and Munisha Khatwani hosted a Pre-Christmas Bash for TV Stars at Phoenix Market City, Kurla. Munisha and Mazher's company Gyaan Productions organized this event at Amoeba Sports Bar. Surprisingly, the turnout of the actors who came to enjoy this special pre-Christmas treat was overwhelming and certainly a little unexpected as many actor don't prefer travelling all the way to the other corner of the city. But guess the goodwill of the hosts worked wonders. The actors were seen enjoying themselves in the bowling arena and rocked the dance floor. They were treated with scrumptious dinner and cocktails. Everyone had a blast and let their hair down and the competition spirit in the actors was witnessed especially for the game of bowling.


Angad Hasija, Munisha Khatwani, Mouli Ganguly


Karishma Tanna

Mouni Roy


Pammi Pyarelal team comes to support Mazher Sayed



Lavania & Chetan Hansraj with Shilpa Saklani & Apurva Agnihotri



Gurdeep and Arjun Punj pose with Santa Claus



Amar Upadhyay



Vahbbiz Dorabjee, Kishwer Merchantt and Suyash



Krystle Dsouza and Nia Sharma



And starts the Bowling Competition....

Adhvik Mahajan



Delnaaz Irani



Kavita Kaushik



Sooraj Thapar



Sumona Chakravarti

Adaa Khan's seems in an intense conversation while Karan Goddwani looks over curiously



Smita Bansal

WALK OF THE STARS honours Jeetendra!

UTV Stars' Walk of the Stars unveiled the celebrated actor, Jeetendra's hand impression tile to honour him for his priceless contribution to the Indian film industry. This tile will be installed at UTV Stars premium property, Walk Of The Stars. Jeetendra exclaims, "I am glad to be honoured, to join the league of silver-screen greats. I am happy, that UTV Stars has taken this initiative, which will mark the remembrance of all the senior actors in this industry. And it gives me unbound happiness to be a part of it alongside such celebrated personalities."



Bappi Lahari, Rakesh Roshan, Ekta Kapoor, Tusshar Kapoor, Shobha Kapoor, Jeetendra with his sister, Poonam Sinha, Moushumi Chatterjee and Prem Chopra

STYLO'S 25th Anniversary!

Shiva's Stylo celebrated its 25 years of success in a unique way at Hotel Taj Lands End in Bandra on Saturday by live display of 'express hairstyling act' where Shiva styled hair for a model in just five minutes without using scissors. Film directors Madhur Bhandarkar, Abbas-Mustan, actors Neil Nitin Mukesh, Mugdha Godse, Neha Hinge, Aanjjan Shrivastav, Raju Kher, Krishika and Sunil Lulla of Eros International, choreographer Sandip Soparrkar, Daya Nayak and many eminent personalities graced the event.



Neil Nitin Mukesh with Shiva



Krishika and Sunil Lulla



Madhur Bhandarkar



Aanjjan Shrivastav



Mugdha Godse



Raju Kher



Abbas and Mustan

Masala! Awards 2013!

In its 6th Year, Masala! Awards was back with a bang to celebrate the biggest achievers in the UAE and Bollywood. In association with Saif Belhasa Holding and produced by Wizcraft, the event was a glamorous affair with elite personalities in attendance, from CEOs to Global Business Leaders and Tinseltown's glamorous stars. On the 28th of November, Madinat Jumeirah dazzled with the Bollywood Stars and many other celebrated personalities. The awards night was hosted by Manish Paul and Karishma Kotak. This year saw a number of celebrity attendees including Zeenat Aman who was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award for her legendary career. Also present were some of the most popular beautiful women in Bollywood today including Esha Gupta, Asin and Chitrangada Singh.


Rosemin Manji


Kavita Srinivasan & Zeenat Aman


Saif and Sarah Belhasa


Urmila Matondkar with Manish & Punit Malhotra


Chitrangada Singh


Esha Gupta


Kamu and Kamal Vachani

SAB TV celebrates success of Chidiya Ghar & Lapataganj!



Cast and Crew of Lapataganj - Ek Baar Phir


Anooj Kapoor


Rohitashv Gour

Its celebration time for SAB TV as two of its most popular shows *Chidiya Ghar* and *Lapataganj* produced by Garima Productions completed 500 episodes and 100 episodes respectively. The celebration took place on the sets of *Lapataganj* and saw the cast and crew of both the shows rejoicing the success along with Anooj Kapoor, EVP & Business Head, SAB TV, and Producer Ashwni Dhir. Celebs spotted were Paresh Ganatra, Sumit Arora, Shubhangi Atre Poorey, Saransh Verma, Jeetu Shivre, Mandakini Srivastav and Rohitashv Gour, Sucheta Khanna, Abbas Khan, Aditi Telang, Anup Upadhyay, Rakesh Srivastav, Sanjay Chaudary, Krishna Bhatt, Ashutosh Sinha, Sunil Kumar, Soma Rathod, Vineet Kumar amongst others. The celebration started with a cake cutting ceremony followed by distribution of trophies to the artists.

Doli Armaanon Ki's launch party!


Mohit Malik, Pearl Grey & Neha Marda


Doli Armaanon Ki team

Pearl Grey threw a bash to launch her new show, *Doli Armaanon Ki*. The lead actors Neha Marda and Mohit Malik walked with their better halves. Dance and music were the soul of the launch party and everyone hit the dance floor, relishing the beginning of a new journey. The party went on till the wee hours of the morning.

All Parties by **Dharmishtha Dagia**













GR8 ! Love Stories 2014

Photographed by Pravin Talan



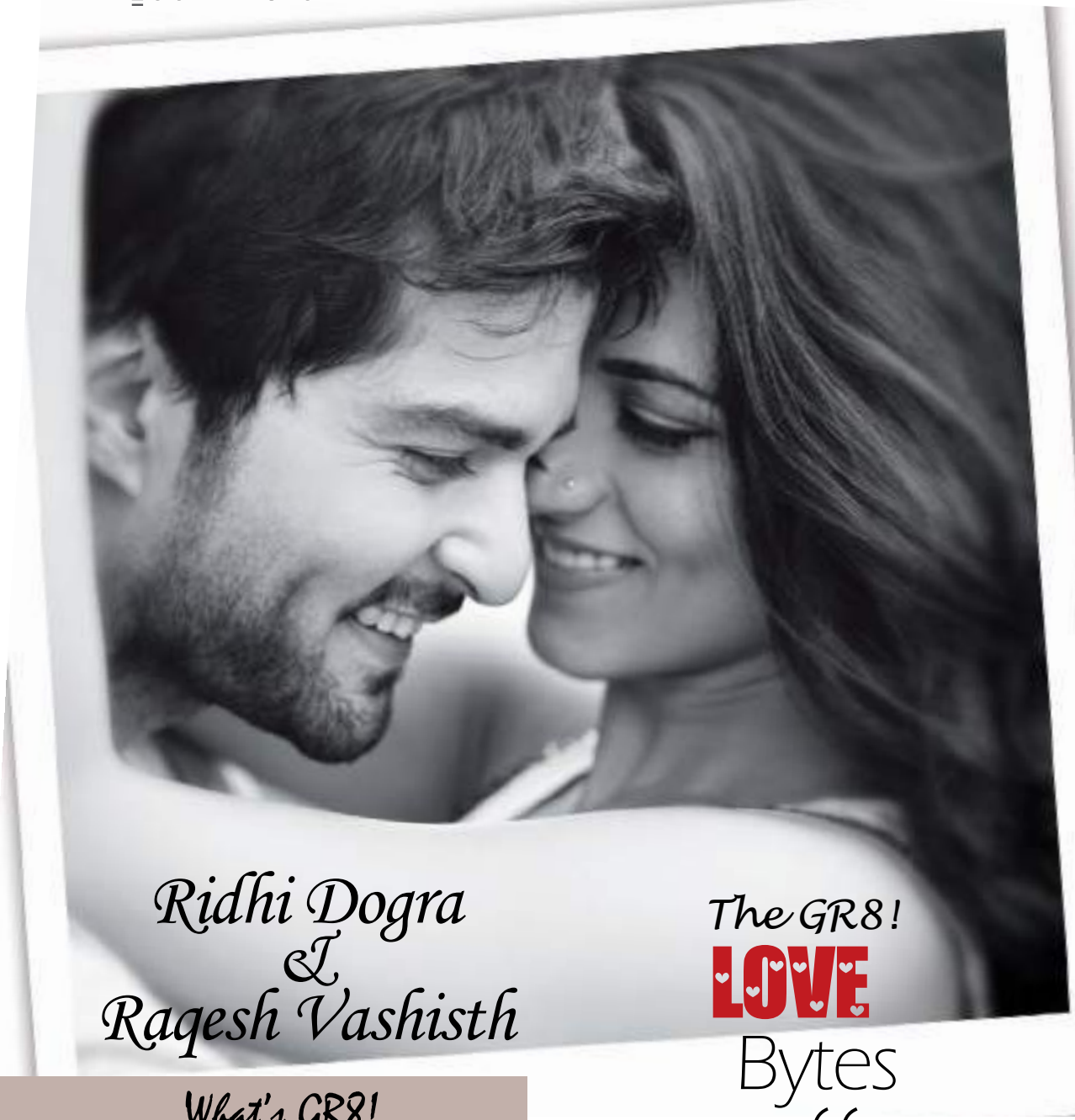












Designer: Vitamin by Sonalika Pradhan, Fashion Stylist: Riddhi Shah, Make-Up: Aniruddha Sawant (Pappu), Hair Stylist: Surekha S Gangnaik.

Ridhi Dogra & Raqesh Vashisth

The GR8! LOVE Bytes

What's GR8! about them

The *Nach Baliye 6* couple met on the sets of the cult show *Maryada: Lekin Kab Tak* and post that Raqesh was seen in *Honge Judaa Naa Hum* and Ridhi in *Savitri*. Opposites attract and Ridhi and Raqesh are examples of this. She is a *bindas* Punjabi *kudi* while he is a docile Maharashtrian *mulga*. She talks a lot, loves dancing and her bubbly and chirpy self creates an aura of masti. While he enjoys the silence of love.

The shoot was very comfortable and it was a very special day as I shot with my love. Due to *Nach*, we now get time to spend with each other. But before that we hardly got time so it was a break for us as well. Best part is that the shoot was in our house. It was very romantic. Romance is not about roses or surprises it's about understanding and giving space to each other

– Ridhi

I had a lot of fun. We are featuring together for the first time and I will never forget this. The foundation of our love is friendship. We still maintain the friendship that we had before marriage. We share a very good chemistry and I believe I don't need to surprise Ridhi every day but do things that make her feel special and happy

– Raqesh



Fashion Stylist: Dharmishtha Dagia, Make-Up: Aniruddha Sawant (Pappu), Hair Stylist: Surekha S Gangnaik.

The GR8! LOVE Bytes

"The photo-shoot was superb and I had a lovely experience. We don't get much spare time and we shot together after a very long time. We love each other and I always want to be with Gurmeet but due to our busy schedules it is not possible. This photo-shoot gave us the opportunity and was very special

– Debina

It's a great feeling that we have been featured in the GR8! Love Stories Calendar. The shoot was good and fun, also the chemistry between us is natural and nothing was made up because we are best friends first and then husband and wife. We were ourselves. The best part was the emotions, the moments that were captured between us

– Gurmeet"

Debina Bonnerjee & Gurmeet Choudhary

What's GR8! about them

Debina, who was seen as Sita and Gurmeet as Ram in NDTV Imagine's *Ramayan*, tied the knot in 2011. Gurmeet has done the popular shows *Geet - Hui Sabse Parayi* and *Punar Vivah* while Debina is currently seen in *Chidiya Ghar*. The couple is presently seen in *Nach Baliye 6* on Star Plus.

Gurmeet and Debina, who fell in love on *Ramayan*, feel that Understanding is most needed in any relationship. The first thing that binds any couple together is their understanding. It is the most important element of love because without understanding you cannot develop chemistry, compatibility, trust, etc.



Fashion Stylist: Monica Singh, Make-Up: Aniruddha Sawant (Pappu), Hair Stylist: Surekha S Gangnaik, Location: Bawa Villa, Khandala.

Addite & Mohit Malik

What's GR8! about them

Mohit debuted with *Miilee* and is currently seen in Zee TV's *Doli Armaano Ki*. Addite shot to fame with *Shararat* and was last seen in *26-12*. Two simple and grounded individuals intensely in love is what defines this couple the best. Their simplicity and their understanding is what amazed us, they didn't need words to communicate. That smile, that look, and the eyes did all the talking. For them love just means being together. Indeed, Love is Life, because life has no meaning without love!

e GR8! LOVE Bytes

"It's an amazing feeling to be featured in the GR8! Love Stories Calendar. The location of the shoot was really beautiful; the moments that were captured were amazing. This is the first time we shot something like this together. The whole shoot is one memorable moment which will be cherished our whole lives

– Addite

This is something you won't see on TV. The concept was lovely. The weather was wonderful; we were comfortable shooting together. I loved it because we usually don't get much time to spend together"

– Mohit

Fashion Stylist: Shalini Thakur & Assistant Michael, Outfits: Westside, Accessories: Curio Cottage, Make-Up: Aniruddha Sawant (Pappu), Hair Stylist: Laxmi.



Sanjeeda Sheikh & Aamir Ali

The GR8! LOVE Bytes

It feels great to be featured in the GR8! Love Stories Calendar. The shoot was superb as I was shooting with Aamir. Talking about the chemistry between is a secret… it's like when you are in love, romance and chemistry tend to happen. Aamir and I are so bonded mentally and physically that our chemistry is same in front of the camera and behind it also. It's natural

– Sanjeeda

It was a two-hour shoot but we had fun. We shared some casual and beautiful moments. I'll always feel good to be a part of this calendar. I would love us to be featured in December as it is Sanjeeda's birthday month

– Aamir

What's GR8! about them

Sanjeeda began with *Kyaa Hoga Nimmo Kaa* and Aamir with *Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii*. They are *Nach Baliye 3's* winners. Aamir is currently in *Jhilmil Sitaaron Ka Aangan Hoga* and Sanjeeda was last seen in *Badalte Rishton Ki Dastaan*. Honesty is the first thing that many individuals look for in a relationship. An honest relation can fight all the hindrances and the shortcomings and makes stronger the bond of trust, love and togetherness. Honest to each other, the couple discusses and shares everything leaving no space for doubt.



Fashion Stylist: Monica Singh, Sargun outfit: Vitamin by Sonalika Pradhan, Bracelet: Westside, Ravi outfit: Zara, white t-shirt by Sammir Rahim. Make-Up: Aniruddha Sawant (Pappu), Hair Stylist: Surekha S Gangnaik, Location: Bawa Villa, Khandala.

Sargun Mehta & Ravi Dubey

What's GR8! about them

Sargun Mehta is currently seen playing 'Ganga' in *Balika Vadhu* and Ravi was seen hosting *India's Dancing Superstar* and in *Yeh Hai Aashiqui*.
Love is trust for them. She trusts him blindly and believes that never will he betray her love. While Ravi gives her happiness in every way he knows he can trust her with his heart.

The GR8! LOVE Bytes

"It's the first time I will be featuring in a calendar. We shot in a beautiful location at Lonavala where the weather was superb. Ravi and I hardly get time to spend together and this photo shoot brought us closer to each other. Our chemistry came out automatically and definitely

– Sargun

The whole feel of the shoot was great and it was another moment that brought us together. We have maintained the love and nature of our togetherness with a lot of surprises. Wish we are featured in December as it is our wedding anniversary this month"

– Ravi



Designer: Vitamin by Sonalika Pradhan, Fashion Stylist: Monica Singh, Make-Up: Aniruddha Sawant (Pappu), Hair Stylist: Surekha S Gangnaik, Location: Bawa Villa, Khandala.

Barkha Bisht Sengupta & Indraneil Sengupta

The GR8! LOVE Bytes

Indraneil and I have always been considered a cute couple. The GR8! shoot in Lonavala was a lovely experience. There was love in the air. The chemistry that people say we share is natural and the thing that keeps us going is the desire to be together. People get busy and relationships take a back seat, but we prioritize our relationship and our love has resulted in a beautiful two-year-old daughter

– Barkha

We share a lovely bonding as we reinvent our love and do something new to add spice to our relationship. We always find time for each other. We are lucky to be blessed with a beautiful daughter, she has brought us closer. Shooting in Lonavala was fun. We were ourselves during the shoot, it didn't take much time. It was brilliant, we enjoyed being together and the weather was good

- Indraneil

What's GR8! about them

The couple met on the sets of the popular show *Pyaar Ke Do Naam... Ek Radha Ek Shyaam* and fell in love. They've been on the big screen too, but individually: Indraneil in *1920, Kahaani* and *Satyagraha,* Barkha in Bollywood's much-talked-about *Ram-Leela*. Their chemistry has freshness to it; they give the impression of just having met and fallen in love. Many years of togetherness later, the sparks still sizzle and their chemistry appeals.



Fashion Stylist: Monica Singh, Amrapali outfit: Golmaal, Yash outfit: Nautica, Make-Up: Aniruddha Sawant (Pappu), Hair Stylist: Jayshree, Location: Sun N Sand, Juhu.

Amrapali Gupta & Yash Sinha

What's GR8! about them

Amrapali commenced her journey with *Pyaar Ke Do Naam... Ek Radha Ek Shyaam* and is currently seen in *Qubool Hai*. The couple met on the sets of *Teen Bahuraniyaan* and is presently seen in *Nach Baliye 6* on Star Plus.

Love might have hundreds of meanings but in their case, when they are together, they don't speak much… their silence depicts a conversation that can be understood by anyone in love. Yash's love and care for Amrapali was evident from the way he got her breakfast, her outfits and suggested poses for the shoot. Love is a language that doesn't use words but care...

The GR8! LOVE Bytes

The shoot was awesome. Our love for each other maintains the essence of our relationship. The chemistry comes out easily as we are actors… but in this shoot, only one per cent was acting and nine per cent was genuine romance and understanding. The result is there to see

– Amrapali

The shoot was lovely. I felt at home. Amrapali and I love each other a lot and we recently celebrated out anniversary. We respect each other a lot and have always tried our best to maintain our romance and keep our relationship strong

– Yash



Fashion Stylist: Dharmishtha Dagia, Make-Up: Aniruddha Sawant (Pappu), Hair Stylist: Surekha S Gangnaik, Location: Sun N Sand, Juhu.

Shweta Kawaatra & Manav Gohil

What's GR8! about them

Manav is currently seen in *Khelti Hai Zindagi Aankh Micholi* and Shweta in *Adaalat*. They were seen together in *Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii*. Compatibility is important in any relationship and only with it two individuals evolve together, that's how the couple defines love. For them it's not the faults and the disparity between a couple that should be concentrated on but it's important to grow as a couple with these differences as this is what makes them compatible and strengthens their bond of love.

The GR8! LOVE Bytes

I felt wonderful, great and proud…we were shooting together for the first time. We never had an official shoot wherein we got so intimate or comfortable with each other. This shoot was another opportunity to spend time together. For a long time I had taken a break due to my baby and it felt great to be back. It was like coming back home

– Shweta

I know we make a great couple. Shweta and I have tender feelings for each other. We make mistakes; we learn from them, we understand each other. Being in love we forgive each other. The shoot was effortless, we had great fun. We didn't even realize that we gave such a beautiful shot

– Manav



Designer: Pooja Patel, Accessories: Westside, Fashion Stylist: Riddhi Shah, Make-Up: Aniruddha Sawant (Pappu), Hair Stylist: Surekha S Gangnaik.

Daljeet & Shahleen Bhanot

What's GR8! about them

The couple met on the sets of *Kulvaddhu* and have many hit and popular shows to their credit. People say marriage brings in maturity in a relationship and it's all about 'We' and 'Us' rather than 'I' and 'Him/Her'. But being parents gives love and marriage a different meaning altogether. During the GR8! Love Stories Calendar shoot, Daljeet was pregnant and the way Shahleen looked after her and took care of everything from her dress to pose was amazing. He kept asking after every shot if she was okay. For them love had a different meaning, it was a blessing.

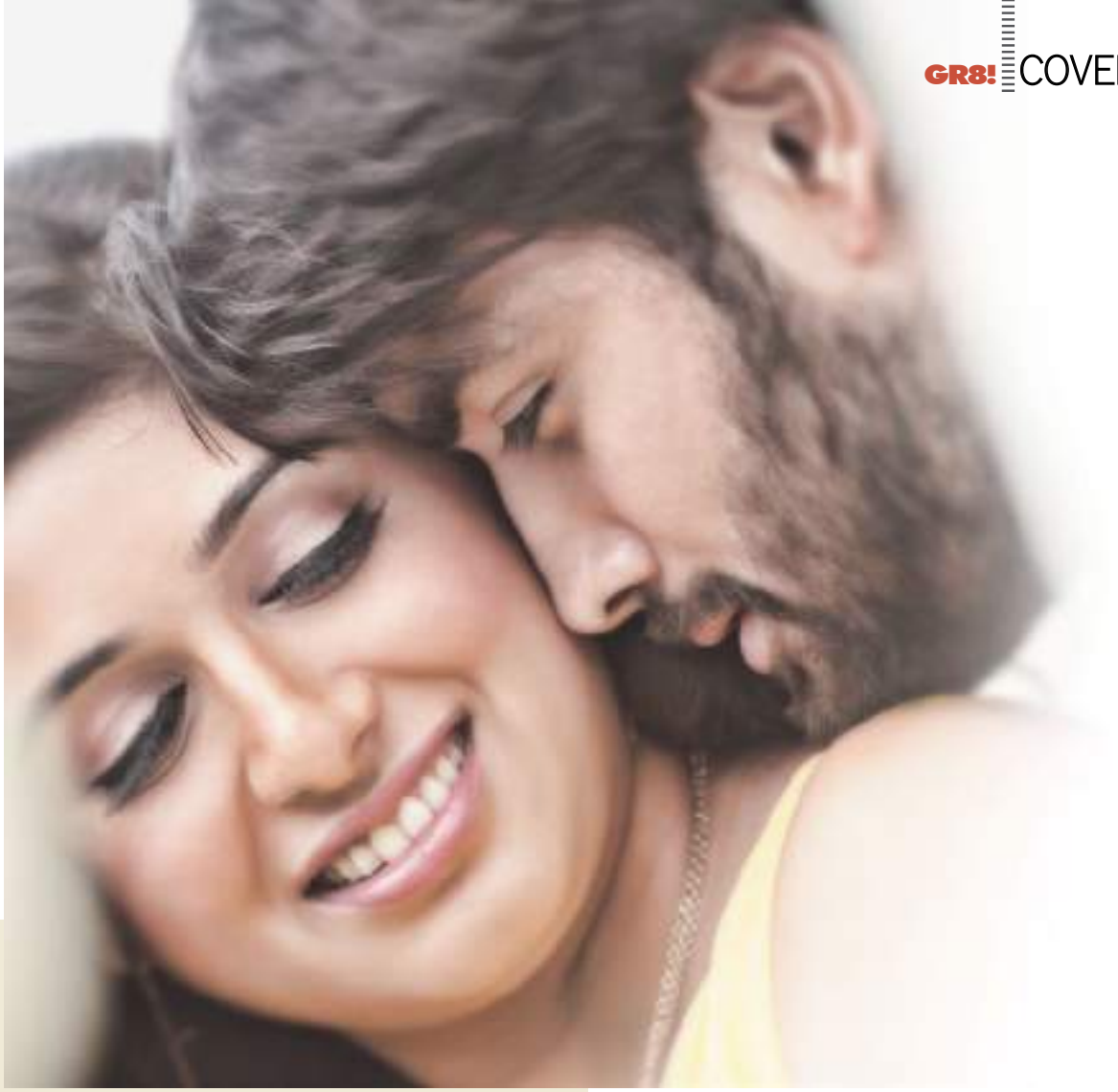
The GR8! LOVE Bytes

It was great shooting with Pravin as I pregnant and he was very patient. I can't express what this shoot means. When my baby grows up I will show him this calendar as it is very special for me, filled with romance and concentrated with baby love

– Daljeet

The GR8! Love Stories Calendar shoot was special… Daljeet was pregnant, and I was with my wife and family! Pravin said, *'Tum-my dikhna chahiye, tumhara face nahi dikhe to bhi chalega.'* Our baby will be a star some day and I'm sure you will cash in on this… his first photo-shoot

– Shahleen



Designer: Vitamin by Sonalika Pradhan, Accessories: Esbeda, Fashion Stylist: Monica Singh, Make-Up: Aniruddha Sawant (Pappu), Hair Stylist: Surekha S Gangnaik, Location: Bawa Villa, Khandala.

Vahbbiz Dorabjee & Vivian Dsena

What's GR8! about them

With *Pyaar Kii Ye Ek Kahaani*, Vivian became television's first Vampire and with his next show *Madhubala - Ek Ishq Ek Junoon,* he became a superstar. Vahbbiz is currently seen in *Saraswatichandra*. They met on *Pyaar Kii Ye Ek Kahaani*. Vivian believed that marriages are made in heaven. And when shooting for the calendar in the mist of Khandala, they did look like the Prince and Princess of some once-upon-a-time fairy tale who live together happily ever after.

The GR8! LOVE Bytes

"I always wanted to do a photo-shoot with Vivian. We got lucky with this opportunity as we were busy shooting for different shows and going to Khandala was a break for both of us. It was very romantic. So this memory we will always cherish. We are like Tom and Jerry. We fight a lot but can't stay away from each other. I call him 'Surprise Man' because he is always unpredictable

– Vahbbiz

I hope we get featured in the month of January in the GR8! Love Stories Calendar because it is our wedding month. The shoot was basically a mini vacation for us. Khandala was fantastic. The chemistry and romance between Vahbbiz and me is because of our understanding and the space we give each other"

– Vivian



Fashion Stylist: Riddhi Shah, Make-Up: Aniruddha Sawant (Pappu), Hair Stylist: Surekha S Gangnaik.

Mouli Ganguly & Mazher Sayed

What's GR8! about them

The poplar show *Kaahin Kissii Roz* brought Mouli and Mazher together. And the couple has been doing great ever since. Mouli was last seen in *Kya Hua Tera Vaada* while Mazher is seen in *Savdhaan India* and *Crime Patrol*. When Karan Johar's *Kuch Kuch Hota Hai* was released, the phrase *'Pyaar Dosti Hai'* became a rage. The perfect example of this phrase is Mouli and Mazher. They believe their bond of love is strong because it's their friendship that binds them together. It is true, the excitement of love fades away in time but good friends always find something exciting to share with each other.

The GR8! LOVE Bytes

"This calendar shoot was very exciting and special. It was the first time we did a professional photo-shoot together. We are more like friends enjoying life to the fullest. But we have never been a couple comfortable with PDA. For the GR8! Love Stories Calendar shoot it came out naturally.

– Mouli

I will be privileged if our photo makes October as it's our wedding anniversary. The shoot was fun but it was a little awkward too as we were going public with our affection. The weather was cool and we shared some good moments."

– Mazher



Fashion Stylist: Dharmishtha Dagia, Make-Up: Aniruddha Sawant (Pappu), Hair Stylist: Surekha S Gangnaik.

Asha Negi & Rithvik Dhanjani

What's GR8! about them

The couple is presently in *Nach Baliye 6* on Star Plus and in *Pavitra Rishta* on Zee TV. She is 24 and he is 25 and seeing them together one is reminded of the cute love stories and movies of a shy girl and a handsome guy. There is a tint of innocence and purity that sparkles in their eyes that smacks of the hope of spending a lifetime together.

The GR8! LOVE Bytes

"It was mind blowing experience which can't be described. The whole shoot was exciting with such a good team. We were going through a hectic schedule with *Pavitra Rishta* and *Nach Baliye* and taking time out was difficult, but how time went we didn't even realize

– Asha

It was a great feeling. We were ourselves during the shoot. The theme was sensuous… which is not us… so that took a little time. Our relationship is based on friendship and we believe in enjoying every moment. We were chilled out during the shoot and it was a great experience. We never go out of the way and do anything to make our relationship special."

– Rithvik

365 Dates of Love

Fashion and style photographer PRAVIN TALAN describes the emotion that went into the making of the GR8! Love Stories Calendar 2014.

That's how I will look at this calendar all through 2014… as 365 dates of love captured through the lens of my Canon 1Ds Mark 3. I disagree with the belief that a photograph speaks a thousand words. At least, not these 24 exclusive images of India's leading television stars that I took for the *GR8! Love Stories Calendar 2014*. To my mind, each one of them speaks a million words. Probably more. Primarily because they are photographs of love. And love is a story that requires no words and follows no language. It is a silent emotion. It can be raging and tumultuous and it can be gentle and shy… but real love begins silently, with the unspoken word and the stolen glance, then people seal it or spoil it later by saying, "I love you." Secondly, the couples featuring in the calendar are actors, and right from the day of the silent talkies, actors have been masters at expressing love. Without words, with actions and expressions, just an arched eyebrow or a toss of the head, they convey a lot more than any lengthy dialogue.





But you may wonder why we created a calendar based on the love stories of television actors. Television is the entertainment of the common man. It drives his fantasies. And these are the stars of his dreams. Every day, every night, they entertain you in the privacy of your living room with Hindi soap operas that have changed prime time viewing across the country right from the time they made their appearance in the mid 1980s. This calendar pays tribute to the current lot of exciting artistes that make those soaps happen, this is their story.

The couples we selected had already been thrown together in intimate proximity for hours on end and for days together on shoots for their popular nightly serials. Naturally, many developed a fondness for each other that slowly progressed in love. It's been known to happen before. In Hollywood and Bollywood, I can give you scores of examples. I began capturing their private moments when working on *GR8! TV Magazine*. The hottest, young twosomes on Indian television expressing themselves and demonstrating love in situations outside the natural surroundings of their studios. That's what this calendar is about… their stories of love.

We put all the photographs together and, "Voila! There's your calendar!" said the enterprising *GR8!* Editor Anu Ranjan. I don't think a calendar of this sort has ever been done before. It's a first of many sorts. A first for me, for the stars themselves, and also for *GR8!* which the stars hugely respect for its values. For me, the challenge was to make each photograph portray a different image of love and togetherness, because with love also comes longing, desire, passion, belonging and various other emotions that a couple experiences. Amazingly, the camera witnessed all of these emotions for me naturally, vibrantly… and, well, lovingly too. We shot in the mists of Khandala and the rains of Lonavala, on wet sand and green grass, with misty mountains and threatening rain clouds looming behind. The monsoon spoiled their clothes, make-up, hair, shoes, it ruined my equipment… but there's something about romance and the rains, it provided a seductive and cozy ambience for the shoot. Love was in the air… even the Rain God sensed it. Me, I am no stranger to love. I just went click-click-click.

From Camera to Calendar

This process could not have been possible without the enthusiasm and cooperation of my friend Atmanand of Studio Link who have been in the business since the late 1970s, the days of black-and-white hand printing that jerkily moved to color and computerization subsequently. He was mesmerized when he saw the *GR8! Love Stories Calendar* photographs. "They are beautiful, what depth of emotion each photo depicts," said Atmanand in excitement, "they are truly inspiring, tell me, how can Studio Link contribute to the calendar?"

Well, since I had shot in natural light, Atmanand who is a wiz at this suggested that we play with different textures, color palettes and toning. Some photos we deliberately toned them in black and white. To the photo of Raqesh painting, we gave the texture of a painting. Atmanand worked out variations depending upon the look and feel of the photo and tried to enhance and make it look better.

This is Studio Link's first calendar of TV actors, though Atmanand has worked on many calendars before and even won a silver award for his 'Journey of Life' at some World Calendar Show. When I asked him how it felt, he shrugged and admitted, "It's something that we have never done, but a beautiful photo is beautiful, whether of a TV star or a film star."



'I'm shy of doing an Item Song'

The new age Juliet, **Amyra Dastur's** first film, *Issaq* might not have done well at the box office, but certainly her performance didn't go unnoticed. The Parsi girl has bagged a Tamil movie opposite Dhanush and will be seen in Bollywood opposite Emraan Hashmi in Mahesh Bhatt's *Mr. X*. In conversation with Amyra Dastur...

As a kid...
I was a dreamer and I always dreamt of modelling. I used to participate in plays and acts and that's where I realized that I want to act in films too. I always thought like I will do at least 50-60 films.

Parents' Reaction...
Luckily, my parents have been supportive and been in favour of my decision. They just explained to me, if it doesn't work out as it's a risky career, you should always have a back up. I am studying and will surely complete my education simultaneously.

First Break in Films...
It wasn't much of a struggle for me. I was modelling and Manish Sir had seen me and my profile. He called me in office and was happy with the way I look and how my persona is. He thought I perfectly suited the character. The only problem was that my Hindi wasn't fluent but after ten days of workshops, there was a vast improvement and I kept on improvising.

Issaq's importance in your Life...
I got my first movie when I was 18 and that too a lead role, could I ask for something better. *Issaq* was an eye opener for me as I used to think shoots are smooth and easy but the truth is that they are a little chaotic and a lot of hard work. It was a little stressful but a great learning experience. The best moment was when we finished the movie, after giving the last shot I was so happy and relaxed. I will cherish this time throughout my life and honestly I miss those days.

First day of shoot...
I had done ads before so I had faced camera and worked in front of it. Thus, I wasn't nervous about facing the camera. We had done workshop for three months before starting to shoot for the film but still

I was very nervous on the first day of the shoot.

Your Experience...
I had lots of fun. I am not a simple and desi girl so it was real hard work to get into the character. Banaras is a busy city and shooting on real locations gives you a different high. We had a great time. Prateik is very helpful and I shared a great rapport with him.

Embarrassing Moments during the shoot...
It wasn't that bad, there were a few embarrassing moments. But the most embarrassing was when I had to shoot with bugs around. I am petrified with bugs and since the locations were real there used to be bugs crawling around everywhere. So during the shot, I would be present and saying my dialogues but my eyes followed the bugs and this was evident on the camera. Assistant directors made sure that the bugs were far away from me so that I could relax and look at my co-stars rather than the bugs.

Movie Promotions...
I hate promotions. If I had a clone, I would send her to promote my movie everywhere. I am not a big fan of crowds and thus going for promotions is a difficult task for me. There used to be so many reporters, such huge crowds, I always felt like saying *'Can We Go.'* I know these days promotions are very important and it's become an important aspect of an movie's post production activities. I always thought that you do your movie, enjoy your work and go home. You wait for its release and then work on the next project. But this promotion aspect never came in my mind.

Dream Role...
I don't know, but one thing is for sure, that it will be impactful and significant.

Currently working on...
I am currently shooting for a South film opposite Dhanush. *'Anegan'* is a romantic-thriller and is being directed by K.V. Anand. From January I will start working on a Bollywood film.

Would love to work with...
Parineeti Chopra, Sushant Singh Rajput, Arjun Kapoor and many others, the younger lot I guess. They are great performers and I would love to work with them as well as other actors from the industry. I am just one film old so have great aspirations.

Experience of TV...
It was a great experience and I had lots of fun and sort of even judged DID Supermoms. It was lovely time spent with a variety of people.

Acting in a TV Show...
Acting in TV will be later. There are many Bollywood actors who are successfully doing television but they are all veterans with a lot of experience. Experimenting with TV wouldn't harm their career. As of now, I would like to concentrate on my career in Bollywood and not divert my focus. Also TV shoots are different and very rigorous with 12-16 hours of shoot every day. I won't be able to handle that kind of a schedule. I am very weak and can't work for such long hours.

Theatre...
I guess yes, I wouldn't mind doing it. I think theatre is more challenging than movie, so it will be a different experience.

Your favourite Heroines...
I love Priyanka Chopra and Vidya Balan. The way PC has handled her career graph it's just amazing, transforming into both glamorous and desi girl avatar. They represent a different type of women. *7 Khoon Maaf, Kaminey, Kahaani, Dirty Picture* are path breaking different movies and I really respect both these actresses.

Item Number...
I would like to do a fun item song but I am very shy, so it kind of scares me. I am taking dance classes so maybe it will help me overcome my shyness.

Genre you want to explore...
I guess I would love to do more of Art movies...!

Ultimate Dream...
I am living my dream and my hard work will garner Success. And this is good enough, I have no other dream, I will just better this dream that I am living.

Favourite song in Issaq - Jheeni Re Jheeni

Issaq in 1 word - Memorable.

Prateik Babbar - If you are nice to him, he is nice to you.

- Dharmishtha Dagia
Photographed by Pravin Talan





Winners all – the 'Boxy Boys' with Anu and Shashi Ranjan

'Beti' BLASTS a 'Sixer'...



The TEAMS

3rd ROCK Entertainment Team

Rohit Roy (Captain)
Aadesh Choudhary
Aman Ganji
Kapil Pathare
Aarnaav Shirsat
Bobby Khan
Aaishwarya Surya
Neel Narvelkar
Jinir
Sandit Tiwari
Ram Mirchandani
Aamir Ali
Kamran Sayed

BOXY BOYS

Manav Gohil (Captain)
Varun Badola
Manoj Tiwari
Dinesh Lal Yadav
Sameer Kochhar
Anand Suryavanshi
Raja Bharwani
Amit Sarin
Vikrant Massey
Jay Soni
Chaitanya Choudhary
Manoje Biddvai
Aditya Redij

Some of the best known faces on Indian TV congregated at Khar Gymkhana for a charity cricket match to raise funds for Anu Ranjan's NGO BETI, which supports women suffering from acid attack and other atrocities. 'POWERPLAY - Sports for Cause, a T20 Celebrity Exhibition Match' was organized by Viceversa Events comprising Ajaaz Ali, Kashish Malkani, Amrita Valecha and Mandeep Dialini. MLA Baba Siddique was the guest of honour for the evening and was seen encouraging the players.

Anu Ranjan, founder of BETI, said, "It is quite alarming how incidents of crime against women are increasing by the day in our city. As influential members of society we have to come together to fight this menace and encourage like minded individuals to join the cause. BETI has already taken up the cause of two acid attack victims, Sonali Mukherjee and Lalita Ben Bansi. Sonali has undergone over six surgeries at a hospital in Delhi and is on her way to recovery, while Lalita is being treated in Mumbai by expert doctors."



Ajaaz Ali, Kashish Malkani, Nikitasha Marwaha, Mandeep Dialini and Amrita Valecha



Manoj Tiwari and Anand Jain



Rajesh Jain and Varun Badola



The match: 3rd Rock Entertainment won the toss and elected to bat first. They put up a total of 113 before they were bowled out. Varun Badola picked up 3 wickets. Boxy Boyz, who were chasing the target, lost wickets at regular intervals and were in a spot of bother, before Varun Badola got them out of trouble with a whirlwind knock of 31 runs in 17 balls. Varun was declared the Man of The Match for his all round performance. Bhojpuri star Manoj Tiwari was quite an attraction as the crowds kept mulling around



Defeated but never depressed – Team '3rd Rock Entertainment with MLA Baba Siddique and Anu Ranjan

him asking for autographs and pics. He also contributed in the field through his bowling and took a spectacular catch in the outfield.

All in all it was an evening well spent with TV celebrities who came together for the cause of BETI, Anu Ranjan's initiative on the girl child.

Winner Team: Boxy Boyz
Man of the Match : Varun Badola
The Team won by 8 Wicket.
Varun Scored 31 runs in 17 balls.
3rd Rock Score was 113 and Boxy Boys Won by 2 wicket.





'I'd travel ticketless to the studios'

The heartfelt tale of camera ace Sanjay Memane

(It was almost proving to be a wild-goose chase! Perked up as we were at idea of angling in one who can positively be called the Dean of Cameramen on Television today, it, somehow, seemed next to impossible to snatch him away from his work commitments for a bit of gabbing in the 'GR8! Chat'…

Tentative appointments kept getting cancelled and time kept whizzing past, when suddenly Dame Luck smiled and we kind of caught him on the hop on a day that perchance hung between two heavy schedules…

Finally, we've heaved a deep sigh of relief and there he is in the GR8! den, ready to be at the other end of our chatty encounter…

Grinning like Cheshire Cats, we take him to the lounge and even before he settles in the sofa next to us, he is profusely apologetic at having put us through the drill…

'No bother, really…' we whisper and we actually mean it, because it is such a special day… After all, it's none of that routine tangle with the tinsel that we do every day, here… Instead, it's an opportunity to know someone who gives texture to that tinsel…

And the 4 times ITA Awards winner, besides other decorations from State et al, opens, to our sheer delight, his heart out to us in telling a truly spec-to-solar story – his own… here goes…)

Today, Sanjay Memane is a huge presence on Television in the realm of Camera…

(he looks upwards to sigh, 'Ganpati Bappa'…)

Tell us, does that find you happy & contented or still restless for doing more?

Sanjay Memane: Well, yes, I have been able to register my presence here, even if I am no Santosh Sivan or Ashok Mehta – but then, few, if any, can be of that aura…however, despite having done 40-plus Shows so far, whenever a new Show of mine is about to start, the first 4-5 days are always misery to me. I'm as restless then, as I was when I started…

That is to say, till you sink in its essence and catch its visual pulse?

Sanjay M: Exactly! Also, every time I have to attempt

something new to meet everybody's expectations *ki iss baar Sanjay kya naya karega*…!

And the fact is that you've never ever failed them!

(*another gush heavenwards as he touches his forehead with his finger*…)

Achha, we feel it is only too pertinent to ask the Dean of Cameramen here to explain what, according to him, is the core duty of a person helming the Camera?

Sanjay M: Talking about Television, it would be that how best he can create the visuals within the limitations imposed by this medium and its circumstances on him!

Yeah – TV does impose great compulsions of time & money on its technicians…

Sanjay M: That's what! Furthermore, as a Cameraman I have to be in absolute sync with the subject, so much so that when an actor is speaking a line, my frame should also be speaking along with him. That can come only after a thorough knowledge of the Script. I have just finished 9 episodes of Rang Rasiya (*Colors' next big Show*) and trust me, I know each of its freeze frames by heart!

But when you are deciding the visual graph & design of a Show, what is the trigger-point of your own creativity as a Cameraman in it?

Sanjan M: Same as I just said – the Script! I keep mulling over each episode again and again for 3, 4, 5 days. And luckily, I've never been rushed in this by my Directors. Be it Goldie (Sidharth Sen Gupta – 'Balika Vadhu'), Ravindra Gautam ('Bade Achhe Lagte Hain') or whoever – they all have this trust in me that I'm not idling away my time while doing that. It is essential for me in performing to my perfection!

You have done both TV and Cinema as well… the latter is said to be a Director's medium – now, if that is so, then is there room for a Cameraman's individual creativity in a Film or he and his work is just a footnote to the Director?

Sanjay M: Those trends are changing now and a DOP (*Director of Photography*) can often be seen giving his personal pattern to a Film. If you have seen, 'Shwaas' (*Marathi, 2004 - National Award Winner and India's entry to the Oscars*), you would know what I am talking about! But, of course, there has to be a bonding of trust between the Cameraman and the Director!

Okay, tell us, what, to you, is more fulfilling – Film or TV?

Sanjay M: Speaking for myself, I would say – both! That's because I am provided with equal facilities in both. However, the fact remains that Films give you more time for your creativity – also, that aura of the Big Screen is truly something else. On TV, you are rushed up all the time!



"Anurag Basu is matchless… Today, 25% of me as a Cameraman is owing to him… He has more power of visualisation than any Cinematographer…"

Which is harder?

Sanjay M: TV – no doubt about that! It is so difficult to maintain the same quality in a Show that is spread over months and years. But if you have seen 'Balika Vadhu', you would know that its technical finesse is same in its latest episode as it was in its first one!

You have worked with Anurag Basu in the film, 'Tumsa Nahin Dekha' (2004)… how is he to work with?

Sanjay M: Matchless! He has more power of visualisation than any DOP. Actually, way before 'Tumsa Nahin Dekha', I worked with him on TV in Ekta Kapoor's 'Koshish Ek Aashaa' (2000) and trust me, 25% of what I am today as a Cameraman is owing to him!

Achha, let us go back to the earliest - tell us about your background and how you came to be fascinated with images – we mean, moving images in particular?

Sanjay M: I was born in Pune, but at the age of three I came to Bombay to live at my uncle's and from then on, I was brought up by him. I was in Shardashram Vidyamandir and a classmate of Sahin Tendulkar's. But I had no interest in studies and dropped out in 10th standard!

What hooked you to the Camera?

Sanjay M: I had another distantly related uncle, who worked with 'Kamat Phota Flash' (*the iconic 'Stills' facility that covered countless films once*). He was the one who sowed the seeds of my fascination with the Camera and then I started covering weddings!

You bought a camera of your own for that?

Sanjay M: *Arre, kahaan*! I had no means to do that. I was living off my uncle, who, himself, was only a small time worker, rearing his family and me through heaps of hardships. I had to borrow or hire cameras for the wedding photos!

And then?

Sanjay M: I had this burning wish to be an assistant to some Film Cameraman. But however hard I tried, I could make no inroads into that world!

How about training?

Sanjay M: Training? Are you kidding? No money, no education… how could I ever think of going to an Institute?

Uh, yeah – that was unthinkable, actually! So how did you at all struggle to get in there?

Sanjay M: I lived In Lower Parel and I would travel to the Studios for that in local trains daily without ticket, ditching TC's as I wouldn't have a penny on me to buy one. And all the time I would be told at the Studios- *'pahle Association ka Card nikaalo'*….

Oh, but that costs…

Sanjay M: Costs and how! I was asked variously to shell out 5 to 15,000 bucks for that and I would gasp that I don't have 5 rupees for a train ticket, from where on earth would I get 15,000?

So then…?

Sanjay M: Months kept passing and my frustration was simply killing and then a friend advised me that I should start the Ashok Mehta way…

Ah, yes – he started as a spotboy, serving tea to the unit, no?

Sanjay M: Yeah, but my friend offered to get me the job of a lightman, instead. I jumped at it, being so naïve as to think that from lightman I would become an assistant at the snap of a finger. But the reality was far too harsh. Two whole years passed and nothing happened…

assistant, then 2nd, and then I started handling the Camera in his absence. One thing led to another and finally, I cranked the Camera independently for the 2nd part of Ekta Kapoor's 'Itihaas' (*Doordarshan*) and then came her 'Koshish – Ek Aashaa' and I never looked back!

You have done a lot of Ekta Serials, no?

Sanjay M: Well, 22 so far!

Achha, while it's true that her Serials gave Television new heights of popularity, the fact also is that they gave the medium a horrible grammar of those swishes and whooshes of the Camera dancing across actors' faces with delirious bangs on the soundtrack – a true eye & ear-sore…

Sanjay M: Well, I was a party to it when it started! It happened in 'Kaahin Kissii Roz' (*2001*) and was the brainwave of its director, Santram Verma. It was a horror Serial and that swishing of Cameras with those bangs did create an impact there, catapulting it on the popularity charts despite being in an 11:00pm slot!



'With 'Kaahin Kissii Roz' started that over-the-top, serial-making with the camera jerking and swishing across actors' faces with bangs… This grammar was broken by 'Balika Vadhu'… And I was at both the ends…'



Uh, for 2 years you were stuck with being a lightman only?

Sanjay M: Exactly! I was miserable! I would get 15 rupees for a shift, the rest of my wages was said to be set aside for the Association-card. My friends would come to the sets and see me in shabby attires with that little duster on my shoulder and they would sigh – 'what have you done to yourself?' (*his gaze goes vacant and for a nano instant, glassy-eyed, he just stares into space… we hurry to break the mo…*)

So how did things turn for the better, then?

Sanjay M: I requested that friend to somehow secure the job of a Camera-attendant at least for me. He moved some strings to get me the job and I started carrying the *Paatla* about on the sets for the Cameras. Some more agonising time passed and then I became the head Camera attendant. That's when I stumbled upon my saviour – Charu(*Dutt*) Dukhande, a very senior Cameraman in Marathi films!

He gave you the break?

Sanjay M: I started focus-pulling for him along with my chores as an attendant and then he made me his 3rd

And that's why everyone else started following it!

Sanjay M: Yeah – everywhere it became a race *ki dekhne waalon ko chakkar aane chaahiyen*… and that's when the grammar became too jarring to bear!

And that was broken by 'Balika Vadhu', where the Camera once again started staying on a shot, holding on an emotion. The irony is that you, who created that grammar, were also instrumental in breaking it!

Sanjay M: That's correct – I was at both the ends!

What was your brief in 'Balika Vadhu', then?

Sanjay M: Nothing formal… I just studied the Scripts deeply and then Goldie and I started exchanging notes. When the shooting started, I told them – 'let's keep the frame steady and just look at what the children are doing' and I found that Goldie was on the same page as I was! That created the impact!

Tell us a wish unfulfilled?

Sanjay M: Yes – I want to make a Black & White Film!

A visual in TV tends to come across as totally flat with no depth or dynamism, but you devised a way out of it by putting little things in the foreground of a mid-shot focused on an actor. That way, we had little out-of-focus patterns giving the shot a depth!

Sanjay M: Not only this, I feel that in a high-voltage intense Shot on an actor, all else should be out-of-focus except him, so that though the viewers are seeing everything in a scene, the attention is centred only on him!

Really! What gives?

Sanjay M: Oh, I am obsessed with Contrasts on the Screen and mind-blowing work has been done in the Black & White era in that direction. Looking at that, I feel we are so woefully lagging behind them despite all our advancements in techniques!

We often hear tales of the famous Sanjay Memane temper…

Sanjay M: Look, I am basically a fun-loving guy, but I cannot brook incompetence or laid-back sloppiness. If it is a 7am shift, then all hands must be on the deck at that hour. If it doesn't happen, I snap at whoever is responsible!

What, would you say, has been your shining hour?

Sanjay M: 'Shwaas' – without a shred of doubt!

And a low point?

Sanjay M: Some missed opportunities – like, I was called for 'Taare Zameen Par' and they demanded 75 continuous days for it, which I could not give because I was committed to an Ekta Show. But no regrets, though – to me, Commitment is sacred… come what way!



'I can swear on God that Ekta never ever raised her voice on me… The fact is that she loves her team from the core of her heart… But she does get cross at in competence and why not…'

Any plans for directing?

Sanjay M: Certainly! But I would not wield the Camera when I am wielding the megaphone!

Why? People have done both in a film…

Sanjay M: They may have – but I am firm in my opinion that the Cameraman in me would be a distraction when I am directing!

What do you do in leisure?

Sanjay M: Laze! What else? I sleep and sleep… and yes, I see lots & lots of TV also. My TV is on even when I am sleeping!

Who have been your idols?

Sanjay M: Santosh Sivan! He is God for me! I've often asked him to let me be an assistant in some Film of his!

And in personal life?

Sanjay M: Hmmm… none, really! I'm a self-made man, who just kept running and then reached somewhere that made the run worth it!

You did a hat-trick of wins at The ITA Awards out of your tally of 4 so far… What does it mean to you?

Sanjay M: Oh, it gave me an incentive to keep doing better and better each year… Winning such a prestigious Award changes people's attitude towards you… I do not hunger after Awards, but getting the ITAA has always been so fulfilling!

Does success bring insecurity also to you?

Sanjay M: It doesn't! You see, I have no insecurities as I can do any work, anywhere!

Achha, how Sanjay Memane defines Sanjay Memane?

Sanjay M: Learning!

(Humility, thy name is Sanjay Memane! All the deafening applause and accolades that have kept coming his way haven't been able to build an Ivory Tower around him… He takes great pains to remain down-to-earth…
As we said earlier, here is a 'spec' that became Solar in shine & sheen, but he never pushes his adverse, penurious beginnings under the carpet of fame & fortune that are kissing his feet, today…
It's 'wraps' for the Chat and while we switch off the Dicta, he once again throws some more regrets onto us for the chasing we had to do… But really, that seems such a trifle after the tête-à-tête that we have at last been able to wheedle out of him…
Didn't the old bard Shakespeare title a play of his – 'All's Well that Ends Well'…
And the end-result here has left us… Cock-a-hoop…!)

- Vierendra Bhargav

'I was called for 'Taare Zameen Par' and they wanted 75 continuous days from me, which I couldn't give them as I was committed for an Ekta show… But no regrets, commitment is sacred…'





'My Fav TV Show is Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah...'

Seen in movies like *MP3, Teree Sang, Jaane Kahan Se Aayi Hai* and *I Don't Luv U,* **Ruslaan Mumtaz** debuted on television with *Kehta Hai Dil Jee Le Zara.* Though his movies haven't seen very huge box office successes, he has always got good reviews as an actor. With his show, Ruslaan has not only become a household name but also has acquired a huge fan following. Even though being the son of actress Anjana Mumtaz, he never used her contacts or her name for work and got all the roles on his credibility and talent. He shares his journey as an actor, his future plans and more with **GR8!**

How did acting happen?

When I was in college I was studying finance and preparing for my CAT exam. But I failed in my exam and was sitting with all my colleagues in the canteen and we were generally discussing things. They were all finance students and suddenly they told me why don't you become an actor you will earn more and that's how it clicked and acting happen to me.

Your first project?

My first project was *MP3-Mera Pehla Pehla Pyaar,* and that happened because of my mother, not by using her contacts but listening to her advice. She told me that don't approach for work using my name, try it yourself, put up your hard work and dedication and that's how I got it.

How did you bag the role in Kehta Hai Dil Jee Le Zara?

Sony channel contacted me and asked if I am interested in doing television. I said if it's an interesting role with a good concept, I will surely do it. The concept of the show was basically a love story of older woman and a younger guy. **Sangeeta Ghosh** was paired opposite me and I knew that if I want to debut on TV then this show was the perfect one with a unique concept.

How is life as an actor?

Life as an actor is fantastic. There are lots of perks being an actor like wherever you go you are greeted with smiling faces and get special treatment.

What are the pros and cons of being a TV actor?

The pros are instant fame and recognition and monitory stability. The cons are that you don't have a personal life and not get many holidays, you are working 29 days a month. This becomes too hectic.

Would you dare to bare?

I have done it already on my show and that's going to continue...

Future plans?

As of now *Jee Le Zara* is my priority, I haven't thought of anything beyond the show yet. Once I am done with the show, the first thing I am going to do is take a break.

First Earning as an actor:

Rs. 7 Lakhs.

Fav TV Show:

Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashmah and Entourage.

Inspiration:

Aamir Khan because he lives a super star life with such a laid back attitude. He's a star but an actor and a professional first and that's how I want to be.

Dream Role:

Tom Cruise's character, Jerry Maguire.

- Dharmishtha Dagia

The Crime Busters!



Television's top crime show hosts staged a *nakabandi* one night and discussed the dangerous crime scene prevalent across the country. Sleuthing journos **Ranjini Nair** and **Dharmishtha Dagia** filed the F.I.R. for **GR8!**



Ideally, they'd make a great team of crime busters.

The deadly serious **Anoop Soni,** the dangerous and brooding **Gaurav Chopraa,** the lethally charming **Karan Kundra** and the feisty, ass-kicking **Kavita Kaushik.** Put them together in a trouble zone, and which anti-social would not run to avoid a confrontation Tellyland's famous four!

That's what we thought. So ***GR8!*** invited them to the office for a crime conference over coffee. The idea was to



Pics: Sachin Narkar

Gaurav Chopraa, Anoop Soni, Kavita Kaushik and Karan Kundra

get the views of television's top crime show hosts on the recurring dark and bloody headlines of these days. Crime is now big news. And it sells as much as cricket, Bollywood and politics if not more. Newspapers and television news channels are quick to sensationalize crime. Terrorism, murder and rape make lead stories. Kidnapping, prostitution and the teenage drug scene provide headlines. Not to mention corruption, blackmail, domestic violence, fraud, forgery… all a reality of life now.

And the emerging trend… violence against women. Infanticide has become feticide, molestation has turned into gang-rape; acid attacks, slashings, honour killings, murder are common; and, increasingly the 21st century Indian woman is reporting another horror – sexual harassment and assault at the work place and home, by colleague and boss, brother and father. Also on the road and in the train by total strangers. No woman feels safe in any place today. The horrific gang-rape trial is underway in Delhi; the investigation into the equally brutal Shakti Mills gang-rape in under process in Mumbai. Meanwhile, *l'affaire la Tehekla* is knocking at the media's doors. Indeed, this is a sick society we have come to live in.

But Anoop's *Crime Patrol* (Sony TV), Gaurav's *Savdhaan India - India Fights Back* (Life OK), Karan's *Gumraah* (Channel [V]) and Kavita's *F.I.R.* (SAB TV) by analyzing what is happening, actually sensitize people to crime. Their shows are full of human interest content – they involve the viewers and make them think, they create awareness so people can take preventive measures and guard themselves against a potential crime. Sometimes life imitates art.



I say it's about mentality. Boys grow up seeing how their fathers behave with their mothers. The thought should be put into their heads that their sisters are girls, their mothers are women, and there is a certain way to deal with the fairer sex. Men have a role and responsibility. If they approach a girl and get turned down, men should learn to accept it. Not take this as an insult and rejection. And

People don't mind spending thousands of bucks on a lunch but will get into a heated discussion with the housing society to raise the watchman's salary by 500. Arre, learn to strike a balance…

Interestingly, we also invited Shivaji Satam of *C.I.D.*, both the old guard and vanguard of cop shows, to join our crime chat. But the veteran TV cop politely declined. No, he wasn't chasing criminals in some strange corner of the world or supervising post-mortems in a comically bizarre morgue. He was an actor playing a policeman, he explained, not an anchor of a crime show. And it would not be proper for him to express his view therefore. *"Section garam hain!"* ACP Pradyuman could not have dismissed us as easily. So Anoop Soni, Gaurav Chopraa, Karan Kundra and Kavita Kaushik valiantly held fort for television's crime shows and took our questions. Here's what they said…

GR8!: Crime against women is on the rise. What's the reason?

Anoop: We say it's a question of attitude.

When the police of this country aren't treated well how will they treat you well? Their salaries are even lesser than what we give our drivers.

follow it up by stalking the girl and then making an acid attack.

Kavita: It's increasing and around 35 per cent of this crime







subconsciously behaves in the same manner. The mentality that *'Ladki hai shaadi karke jana hai'* should be thrown out of society.

Gaurav: Crime and the mentality of crime stems from the fact that you're superior. Anybody who breaks into the house of an 80-year-old and beats or kills is committed by some relative, friend or people the women know. It's extremely scary and terrible. Every parent should make their kids aware of their sexuality. Basically right parenting and right guidance is needed and this should begin right from their childhood itself so that a strong foundation is built. The mentality has to change. We need to be progressive and not regressive. Women need to compulsorily learn some form of self defence. There is a crazy stigma that discourages women to raise their voice. Every woman has gone through some kind of sexual harassment, the level/degree of it may vary, it might not be a rape always, it can be lower but any kind of harassment is disturbing. Man should realize that this is serious and he needs to respect women.

> From rape to murder, crime is committed because there is a fearlessness of the law, and that's why serious crime is getting more common.

Karan: I don't think there is any particular reason behind crime against women. Kids need to be taught to respect women and treat them right. In our society since childhood the boys are taught that women are not stronger than men and are not independent. Women in India are always shown as inferior to men even in mythological shows. It's always the same men dominating them. Children adapt what they see in Indian families. A son sees how his mother and sister are treated and





> I belong to Punjab where people don't fear law and punishment because they know that they can easily get away.



them and then robs the place does so because the victim is weaker and the assailant knows he can get away with it. You can't ignore the fact that physically men are stronger than women. There is that conscious awareness. When you raise boys and girls, the girls should always be made aware that they are potential victims of an assault. And the same guys who are respectful to their mothers and sisters at home should be told it's not cool to join friends at the street corner and pass comments at girls. At least 60% of our male population feels it is a manly, testosterone thing to chase a girl or pass a comment.

GR8!: That happens because our laws are weak…?

Anoop: Yes, everything takes so long to happen here. Take acid attacks.
Only recently the Supreme Court set a deadline of March 31, 2014, for state governments to frame rules for regulating the sale of acid to prevent their misuse against women by jilted lovers. My point is: why has it taken so long? We talk of human rights, we watch how societies in the Middle East instantly punish criminals by chopping off their hands, it doesn't have to be that… but some action can be taken. Consider the Delhi gang-rape case. When the talk of death sentence came up, people started protesting, saying 'No, no… not capital punishment, we aren't that kind of society…' I mean, what…
Kavita: The laws need to be strict and one has to set an example by coming up with a stern punishment.
Karan: Laws should be made strict so that people think thousand times before committing any crime against any woman. I belong to Punjab where people don't fear law and punishment because they know that they can easily get away.

Gaurav: Nobody really fears the law. From rape to murder, crime is committed because there is a fearlessness of the law, and that's why serious crime is getting more common. There's no fear for what will happen to them if at all they get caught. We need a new set of laws… we need to set a strong example, a visual example that deters people, so that even if they are tempted to cross the line and commit a crime – they fear this is what will happen to them when they get caught.

GR8!: Do you think films encourage crime?

Anoop: It works both ways. Films show good and bad. But negative characters attract. Gangsters with flashy sunglasses and swanky cars are very attractive whereas goodness is not. Art reflects society and society reflects art… that's a big subject discussion, but the truth is people understand right and wrong. When we show *Ramayan*, the divide is not down the middle – who behaves like Ram and who like Ravan.
Kavita: I don't think cinema glamorizes crime, in fact in every film the moral of the story is that 'Good wins over the Evil.' The hero fights the villain and always wins in the end. But, yes, the recent trend has the main leads playing negative characters. I feel there has to be right parenting and correct education and awareness. Entertainment should be taken as entertainment and one should not derive or direct inspiration out of it.
Karan: Yes, I think Bollywood in a way attracts crime. Observe kids near the signal and you will realize that they are very inspired by Bollywood actors. They say, 'I am a fan of Bhai. I dance like him and do what he does.' What Bollywood shows is for entertainment but somewhere it influences the mindset of these kids. I mean if they see an 'A listed' actor driving the best car, surrounded by beautiful women, they go 'Wow' and want to live a life like that and some of them go out of their way with a dream to live that type of life.

Gaurav: Bollywood works both ways. There's no story in cinema that's been made and has not happened. Yes, but filmmakers have a social responsibility. Films are looked at as something that signals or urges a person on. The audience is impressionable. If we show crime as a cool thing, the audience sees it as a cool thing. Cinema, art, entertainment mirrors what happens in society and you can't blame them, but at the same time, filmmakers ought to remember and be aware that this is India. You show smoking as cool and the next day 20,000 people have taken up smoking. Just for commercial reasons or the gratification of an actor, lets not…

GR8!: What do you think is the root cause of domestic crime…?

Anoop: The root cause of domestic crime, I feel, is the disparity in society… the widening chasm between the have and the have-nots. Analyse it. Frustration, greed, the mentality to make money from any easy way, that's the basic root of crime. People don't mind spending thousands of bucks on a lunch but will get into a heated discussion with the housing society to raise the watchman's salary by 500. *Arre,* learn to strike a balance…it takes a few hundred rupees to make someone like that happy.

Kavita: The disparity between the rich and poor is adding to the crime rate. For instance, when the police of this country aren't treated well how will they treat you well? Their salaries are even lesser than what we give our drivers. They work on national holidays and don't get any facilities. They will be tempted to accept bribes and become corrupt. The police are aware of everything. They have the information on every small crime that happens. Cops know the entire city back of the hand. They know everything but there is no implementation. *Police ka public se directly link hota hai*. When something goes wrong you approach police and not the politicians. The policemen need to be given more privileges then will they be able to help you. My dad is an ex-cop and in his entire life he couldn't make a house of his own. Have you heard of an upper middle-class kid saying that he/she wants to join police force?

Karan: To reduce crime restrictions are important, the punishment should be severe. Take the example of 'Drink and Drive'. Now that the punishment is made severe people are scared of 'Drinking and Driving'. They know they will land in trouble if they do and that they can't escape.

Gaurav: People break laws out of frustration. It is frustrating for somebody who lives hand-to-mouth and then too can't make ends meet to see somebody else with a lavish lifestyle spending money lavishly on clothes, cars, etc. Unfortunately, the frustration builds up and people break laws out of this frustration. I, too, believe policing as a job should become lucrative in a good way. Today to become a cop, you have to invest a fixed amount. And if you want to get posted at, say, some check *naka* where the take is good, then that's a separate investment. There's an attitude towards becoming a cop, now. When a cop is busy with that, where is the question of policing or enforcement?

GR8!: How do the police accept your shows?

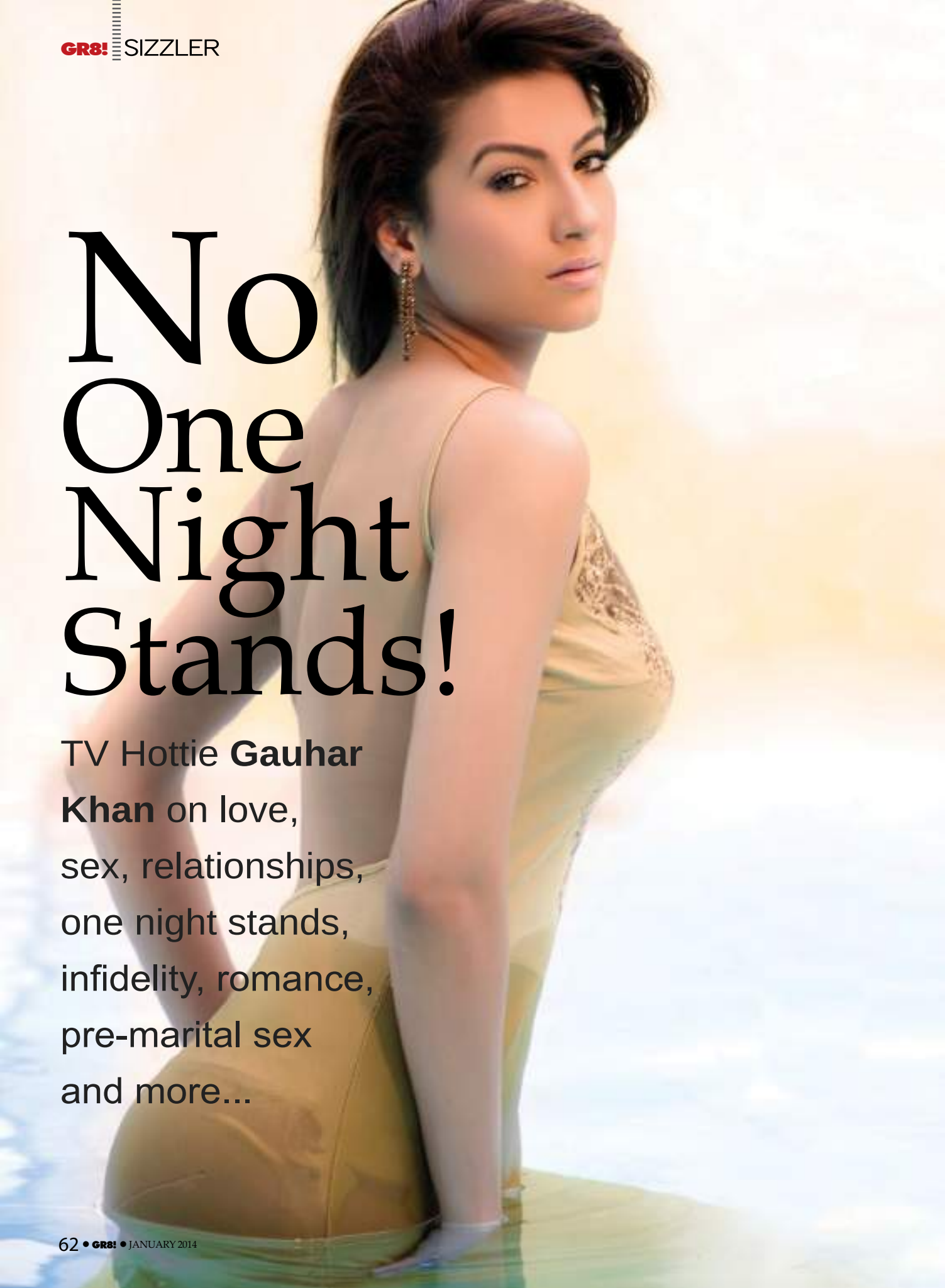
Anoop: The police take me seriously. *Crime Patrol* has taken up lots of crime scene investigations where without a clue, the police managed to solve the crime. The Police Commissioner took 100 such episodes with our permission and is using it as case examples to train new cops.

Kavita: *F.I.R.* is a comedy show so they take me in a lighter way. My character is feisty. She *bindas* hits and slaps people but is also very approachable. I have made a lot of friends in police. But in between comedy and punches we mix real policing. It's entertainment but we also pass on information. The stories are also social. We talk about rights and give information. Like I say many times in my show, *'Ek FIR ki copy lekar jayiye, aap ka haq hai.'* We try to make the police likeable and approachable.

Karan: My show *Gumraah* is about the psychological part of teen crime. It starts with a crime scene and then the flashback; how the state of mind of the person who did the crime was built up to this extent that he takes such an extreme step. We also focus on the mental state of the victim. End of every episode there is a psychiatrist who gives his viewpoint on the situation. The show deals with the sensibility of kids and why they commit crime. Basically the psychological way they get into crime.

Gaurav: As an actor, I try to host Saavdhan India in a way to motivate the audience. It's easy to sit and analyse crime, but my line of thought is that each and every one of us is responsible. You cannot always blame the system. When you go to sleep at night, the responsibility of locking your door rests on you and not upon the local havaldar. People should have social sense when dealing with crime. Women, children, old people are vulnerable, but in one individual stands up and raises his voice when he sees injustice being done to them… it can make a difference. I'm saying, take the first step as part of the social structure. Don't wait to blame the government. You make the difference and see if it works.





No One Night Stands!

TV Hottie **Gauhar Khan** on love, sex, relationships, one night stands, infidelity, romance, pre-marital sex and more...

Gauhar Khan sizzled on the big screen in *Ishaqzaade* and even though being trapped in the Bigg Boss house, she had *deewanas* who loved her sizzling persona. Her strong bond with Kushal Tandon was very much evident but that didn't mean that she couldn't have other admirers. Asif was seen flirting and checking out Gauhar while Ajaz Khan's growing affection is very much seen. **GR8!** Had interviewed Gauhar much before she went into the Bigg Boss house, here's what she answered to our sizzling questions. Read on…



Pre-Marital SEX…

Your opinion on Pre-Marital Sex…
Intimacy is an important aspect of a relationship and is driven by your emotions. It's the couple's decision how far they want to go.

According to you, what makes you hot?

I think I underplay myself, I don't try too hard to look hot and that works in my favour. It's my style and personality that makes me hot.

Your first crush…

My first crush was **Nick Carter** of Backstreet Boys; I was around 12-13 years.

Your first date…

I haven't been on an official date - date as such. I meet friends but it's not declared specifically as a date.

Your first boyfriend…

Too personal to share...!

Infidelity…

Your opinion on Infidelity…
I think it shows the basic character of a person. If you can't be loyal then set yourself free, be single and enjoy yourself. No one has the right to play with another person's emotions.

The biggest turn-on in a guy is?

The biggest turn-on in a guy is good smell and the way he behaves and respects people around him.

The biggest turn-off in a guy is?

The biggest turn-off in a guy is mouth and body odour.

Your ideal date would be?

Hmm... Just travelling abroad, walking on a beautiful beach, away from the rest of the world. Spending some time alone with that special person.



LIVE-IN RELATIONSHIPS?

Do you believe in Live-In relationships?

There is nothing to believe in it, to each their own and it depends on the rapport you share with your partner. If you want to know your partner before marriage and if both are ready to stay together then it's their decision, why should anyone else judge or comment on it..?

Your ideal date dress would be…

I think it shouldn't be very revealing. A beautiful knee length or long dress or even a nice fitted top with a pair of denims.

Hugs or kisses?

I love both hugs and kisses, so I can't choose one. Both are very comforting.

The most romantic act done by you…

For me little, little things matter more rather than flowers and chocolates. Romance to me means going for a walk, watching a movie together, just spending quality time together. Every day is special and everything is perfect if I am with him.

Has a person of the same sex ever hit on you?

No, never thankfully.

Your opinion on one night stands…

This is again an individual decision and I wouldn't be judgemental. But for me it's a No.

Hottest attire…

Saree if draped well, it's the hottest attire. But very few people can carry it off perfectly.

Hottest accessory...

Watch.

How would you react if you find your guy cheating on you?

He wouldn't be my Guy any more.

- Dharmishtha Dagia



Sphere Origins has been one of the most credible production houses and the story of its success isn't unknown. Currently to their credit they have three major shows on-air, *Balika Vadhu* on Colors, *Saraswatichandra* and *Iss Pyaar Ko Kya Naam Doon?... Ek Baar Phir* on Star Plus. Well, success doesn't come easy, it's the hard work and sincerity of Comall and Sunjoy Waddhwa and their team that has put together these successful shows. **GR8!** Speaks to Sphere Origins' **Sunjoy Waddhwa** regarding his shows, their credibility and his Dream Project. In conversation with Sunjoy...

'I like Devon Ke Dev... Mahadev and Qubool Hai...'

Season 2 of shows have hardly worked, wasn't it a risk to launch Iss Pyaar Ko Kya Naam Doon?... Ek Baar Phir?

Life is all about risks, without risks there is nothing. If you play safe, you won't be able to explore and achieve the success. *Aisa hoga ya nahi, show hit hoga ya nahi, aisa agar aap show se pehle sochoge toh launch hi nahi kar paoge.* Second season has just one similarity that it is also a love story. But in every other way its different, the story is brand new, the star cast are different, etc.

Why didn't you cash on the popularity of Barun Sobti & Sanaya Irani?

See, the first season wouldn't have got over if Barun didn't have to quit the show to do a film. He had given us enough time and prior notice but we didn't want to come up with a twist and change the lead actor. Thus, we decided to shut the show. When we came up with the second season, Barun was still not available and Sanaya was doing another show.

So many years of Balika Vadhu, does it feel saturating..?

We have completed almost 1400 episodes but we don't feel saturated as we have enough story to tell. In fact we have so much content that we don't even need to take leaps. Creative team is doing a fantastic job, the writers are doing a great job and everyone else is playing their role perfectly and this team work has contributed to its success. The way it's going, the story itself opens a lot of angles. Social issues also are talked about in the show so that adds on a fresh track. There is no factor that is stagnant. It's not only about the lead actors but the entire family as they too are part and parcel of everyday viewing. The relatability of characters is evident and the connectivity with the show and its storyline is very, very strong.

Ever thought of Balika Vadhu's Second season?

I think first season itself has enough to say, in fact we have so much content that we haven't even taken a time leap or generation leap yet, except one when we showed that the kids become youngsters and introduced Shashank & Pratyusha.



Do you feel lucky to get a project like Saraswatichandra?

I was offered Saraswatichandra by the channel and I am happy that they think that we can live up to the grand scales of the show. One thing I really like about the show is its interesting storyline. When we took up the show it was just 5 months old so we could do a lot of things and work on the creative aspect of the show. It was as good as doing some new show. It has a great story, good viewership, good brand value, good business and if you get such a show to work on, then I think it's the best medium to showcase your credibility and give your magical touch to the story.



> ...the first season wouldn't have got over if Barun didn't have to quit...

Changes in Saraswatichandra's storyline...

Refreshment..! That was the most significant thing for us and the other important aspect was to maintain the high scales. The scale is absolutely top notch, that's why may be the channel thought that we will be able to maintain it. In fact we will better it and take it on to a grandeur level. New storyline has various interesting phases that you would have seen and many are yet to be seen. The characters are seen in a different light.

Upcoming Projects...

There are four projects in pipeline. We haven't yet got the confirmation from the channel, the blue print is ready but just waiting for a go ahead.

How are you as a Producer..?

As producers, I and Comall are completely involved in whatever is happening. Of course we aren't involved into day to day creatives, etc. but have periodic meetings for all the shows, at least once a week. We aren't isolated, we know the creative aspect hands on as it is filtered through us.

One TV show you like..?

Popularity wise I like ***Devon Ke Dev... Mahadev.*** This show has given Mythology a new meaning and has set really high standards. Another show that I like is ***Qubool Hai.*** It's a proper Muslim love story after Heena and is doing really good.

Your Dream Project..?

My Dream Project will be on a massive scale. It will be a periodic love story, something from the past but not exactly old, like100-150 years old may be. Showcasing those times and presenting a love story of that era because in those times love stories were different and Love had a different parameter. It will be shot on real localities and not much on the sets. One thing is for sure that it will be an Intense love story.

Are you Satisfied as a Producer..?

Of course no. There is Quest for more value and goodwill. I am happy with our work but for being content and satisfied there is still a long, long way to go.

- Dharmishtha Dagia

Kahani Aaj ke Mahabharat Ki...

When you attempt to work on an epic, comparisons are bound to happen as everyone has heard the story and even seen it on the small screen in different eras. But still that didn't deter Producer Siddharth Kumar Tewary to go ahead with his grand project. He shares, "Every story has different shades. The beauty of storytelling is to justify a character and its action and graph without portraying him in black or white or a situation as right or wrong. While creating characters, we kept in mind that this show is for today's audience and that every aspect of the story is relevant in today's times. It is an attempt to show the human side of every single character in the series and reinterpret the old text without tampering with the sensibilities of the iconic story." Well, that was the producer's say, **GR8!** also spoke to few actors who are playing significant roles in this epic saga. We asked, what made them nod a yes for this role, what is special in this character and weren't they skeptical to do a Mythological serial as quite a few of them haven't worked well in terms of TRP's... Here's what they have to say...

Saurabh Singh Gujar (Bheem):

"Since childhood I used to like the character of Bheem in Mahabharat, I met the person in a wrestling championship and he once told me that if ever Mahabharat was remade I should surely try for the role of Bheem. That's the only reason I gave it a shot and luck favoured me and I am playing the character of Bheem. I relate to this character a lot as I love eating like Bheem and also I am huge like him. He loves his mother and family a lot and I relate to his personality. Also as I am very powerful like this mythological character and that's why it's close to my heart. I was never skeptical. Mahabharat is a very famous and amazing saga in the Hindu mythology with millions of followers, it just cannot bomb. It has almost every emotion and human behaviour depicted in it and therefore it's not monotonous. Audiences will like every shade of the show."





Sayantani Ghosh (Satyavati):

"When Mahabharat was being conceptualized Siddharth Kumar Tewary wanted to cast me as Draupadi then later due to some reasons he offered me Satyavati instead and convinced me to do it. There was no reason to turn down a prestigious and a strong role in an epic and grand show like Mahabharat. Satyavati is a very strong and confident woman. If you see the opening scene it depicts her strength as a person and physical strength too. I can relate to her as she is very rightful, stands for herself and won't let anything wrong happen to herself. It's not for us to judge and draw. If an actor gets a good role he/she is supposed to do it and that's what I believe in. I believe in working hard and waiting for fruits to reap and I stick to my belief. I am getting a great response since the premier of the show. I am flooded with compliments and blessings."

Rohit Bhardwaj (Yudhister):

"I have worked Swastik productions for their show Navya and the production offered me to audition for the role of Krishna in Mahabharat. I was skeptical but I agreed and auditioned, in the end they felt that I will fit better in Yudishter's role. I wasn't sure if I could do it but Siddharth Kumar Tewary and Shaheer Sheikh who is playing Arjun in the show convinced me and I just had to believe them. Siddharth just made it sound so nice that I knew I wanted to play Yudishter and that's how I nodded a yes for the show. Yudishter is a kings and the feel of it makes you feel majestic. He is the one who fights between 'dharma' and 'adharma' and wins the war. While everybody was either departed to heaven or hell, Yudishter attained 'Mokhsha'. The costumes, visuals, the grandeur of the whole set and concept takes the epic story to a different level altogether. I am very proud to play this role. My role of Yudhisther is amazing and I have worked with the same production house in Navya so the comfort level was there. If the show is good it will rock. Siddharth has worked very hard for the show."

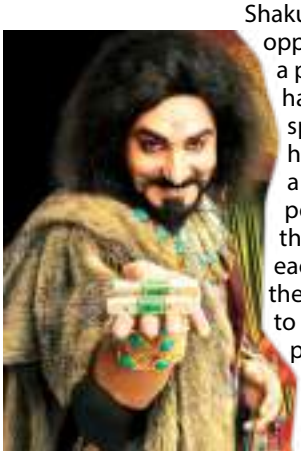


Pooja Sharma (Draupadi):

"The role is just so powerful and worth delivering. It's a performance oriented character and a very powerful mythological personality in Mahabharat. I have worked hard to showcase my ability to deliver a powerful and strong character and also work creatively hard and hence I took up the role. Draupadi has a mind of her own, a very strong lady and she's not scared. She was a victim of circumstances but had the guts to stand up for her rights and hence I am fortunate I got to play Draupadi which is actually delivering the modern behaviour or modern situations too and the issues that have troubled women since centuries. I wasn't skeptical, in fact I was very confident about the role. As an actor when you commit yourself for a role, you just have to believe in it and be confident about it. Mahabharat is an out and out sell out hit story and the role of Draupadi is popular too. A show does well on its own ability to make it big."

Praneet Bhatt (Shakuni):

"It is a very iconic role. As an actor I wanted to do something of this sort. Playing a villain is creatively challenging and hence when I was offered this role, I grabbed it. I am basically from theatre background so I prefer and follow performance oriented roles. Shakuni was just the right opportunity and mix of a powerful character; I had to do it. It's a very special character as it has multiple shades in a single character, a brother, a mama, a diplomat and a politician. The best part about this role is that it has a new layer and a new shade each day. Whenever I look at the script for the day, the scene just has a different look to it, a new emotion and a new sequence to play each day. It's creatively challenging and as I said it's an iconic character. Let's not call it mythology, it's basically history. This epic chapter happened 5000 years ago and lord Krishna came down to establish 'Dharma'. It's a very powerful chapter in the history of mankind. This show is well researched and well created, just had to be a hit, Siddharth has just put up everything in place and it's so well made that it just can't go wrong. I was not skeptical at all, I was confident in the show's concept, set up and Siddharth Kumar Tewary."



Saurabh Raaj Jain (Krishna):

"There was nothing about the role that I could refuse it for! Playing Lord Krishna is a privilege, it's an honour and I didn't think twice before agreeing for the role. The excitement, satisfaction and the high of this role is just beyond imagination. It was like a dream role to me. Everything about being Krishna is special because it is Lord Krishna after all! It's a life changing experience, I feel so amazing playing the great God on-screen. I give my best shot as this is a once in a life time role that has come to me and I embraced it with all my heart and soul. No, I was never ever skeptical about Mahabharat. With the way it is created, conceptualized and materialized it's just fail proof. Siddharth Kumar Tewary has just made it so perfect that I knew this was a hit and without a blink I agreed to the part. I am truly honoured to be a part of such a grand show."





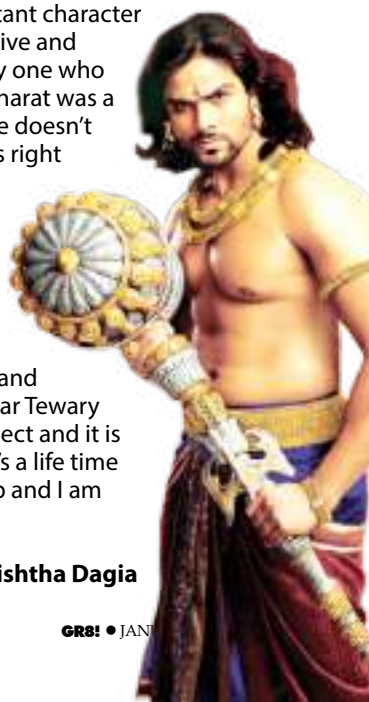
Shaheer Shaikh (Arjun):

Mahabharat is a huge epic saga and a well told story and Arjun is a great chapter and character of Mahabharat. The making of this show is great, it's a very challenging and difficult role, creatively expressive and it excited me, hence it's very special to me. As we all know, Arjun was an avid learner, and that's what I love about this character. Arjun wants to learn and be the best at whatever he does. He was so focused and wanted to be the best to become what he wants to be. I believe in one philosophy, if you like what you are doing and you give your 100%, it just makes a difference and everybody will appreciate the effort too. Siddharth Kumar Tewary's vision is just amazing and is a hit for sure."

Arpit Ranka (Duryodhan):

"Duryodhan is a very important character in Mahabharat, he is both positive and negative in the story. He is the only one who wanted to fight and hence Mahabharat was a war. It's a very powerful role and he doesn't listen to anybody, just does what is right according to him. The best part is I can very well relate to Duryodhan as nature wise I am very similar in beliefs and behaviour. I was a bit skeptical but the way the show is materialized just gets you so convinced that the show is going to be a hit. It's such a grand and awesome concept. Siddharth Kumar Tewary has worked really hard on this project and it is turning out amazingly. I realized it's a life time opportunity and I should take it up and I am glad I did."

- Dharmishtha Dagia



NEW YEAR Resolutions...!

New Year Resolutions are being made... and Tellyland's denizens have dreams to live and hopes to fulfil... Here's what they shared with **Dharmishtha Dagia**... their secret hopes, dreams, desires and aims for themselves in 2014.



I don't make resolutions but I always wish for a beautiful and a happy life...
- Vindhya Tiwary



'My resolution is to not make any resolution and simply go with the flow...'
- Mouli Ganguly



'My resolution is to keep smiling and laughing and spread happiness as always...'
Mazher Sayed



'I want to visit Jaipur and my family at any cost every two months...'
Rohit Purohit



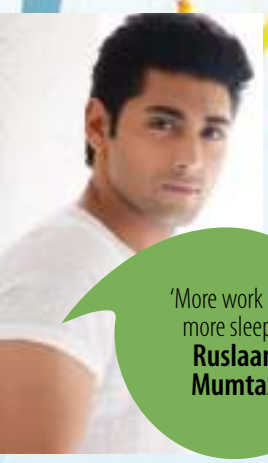
'I want to shop less and eat less. My sweet tooth is going to kill me. And shopping is an addiction, even rehab won't work for me...'
Hunar Hali



'I want to lose 10 kg as I am looking at good, meaty, mother roles in films...'
Neelu Kohli

'I would love to redo my house by taking what is there and revamping it with my own hands...'
Dipika Samson





'More work and more sleep...'
Ruslaan Mumtaz



'To be more practical and not an emotional fool...'
Adaa Khan



'Work hard, party harder and blow money... I want to focus on living in the present. Life is like an Ice-Cream, eat it before it melts...'
Vahbbiz Dorabjee



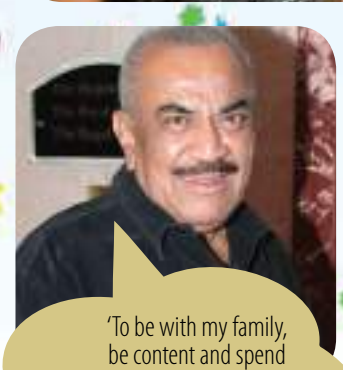
'I will live like there is no tomorrow. Change your thoughts, change your life is my mantra...'
Romit Raj



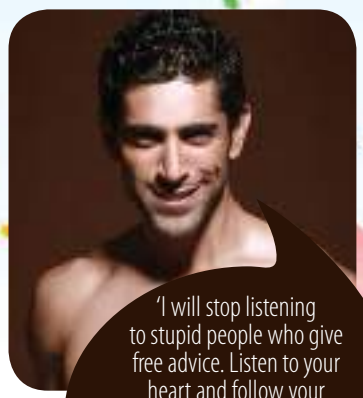
'No repeating 2013's mistakes. I want to try my luck in films too and hope Karan Johar and Aditya Chopra are reading this...'
Rashami Desai

'I will do something new each day to amuse myself. Like get a tattoo or take a hot air balloon safari. My life gets boring and monotonous at times due to working in a daily soap...'
Roopal Tyagi





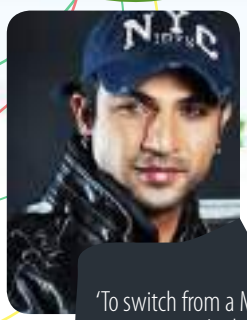
'To be with my family, be content and spend more time at home...'
Shivaji Satam



'I will stop listening to stupid people who give free advice. Listen to your heart and follow your dreams, is my New Year resolution....'
Tarun Khanna



'I want to hate myself a little less for mistakes I have done that in past..'
Piyush Sahdev



'To switch from a Mercedes to an Audi...'
Mohammed Nazim



'I want to fulfil Ridhi's wish to win the Nach Baliye...'
Raqesh Vashisth



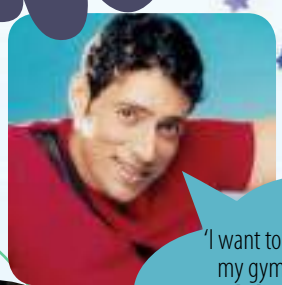
'To be more cautious about the kind of friends I make. I would like to spend more time with people who matter...'
Sambhavna Seth

'Resolution? Do you mean I need to change? Nah, I think I am perfect...'
Neil Bhatt

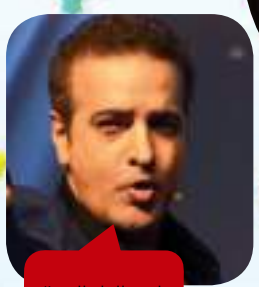




'I want to be more expressive and demonstrative in my feelings and emotions...'
Anuj Saxena



'I want to get back to my gym routine...'
Hrishikesh Pandey

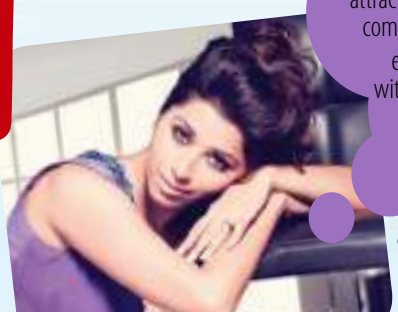


'I will chill and increase my will power...'
Ravi Behl



'I would to be a little more relaxed and go easy on myself...'
Arhaan Behll

'I shall set goals with a plan and a deadline. I will attract roles that push me out of my comfort zone and I will celebrate every moment of my life with positivity, gratitude and humility...'
Ridheema Tiwari



NEW YEAR Resolutions...!



'To create more hit shows like Boogie Woogie...'
Naved Jaffrey



'I want to make 2014 the best year of my life in all the aspects...'
- Amit Varma



'I want to work like a dog for six months and six months travel like a nomad...'
Samir Kochhar



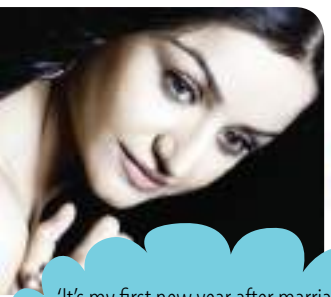
'I want to get a new folio done... and try my luck in films...'
Rohit Bhardwaj



'I don't believe in resolutions. If someone wants to change something in them they shouldn't wait for any day. Instead start working on it at that moment itself...'
Sangeeta Ghosh



'To create a scandal that is news worthy...'
Arif Zakaria



'It's my first new year after marriage and I am going to Thailand. I want to work a lot, come back to shows in a different look and love my husband a lot...'
Muskaan Mihani



'I intend to make my house and do it up well so I can throw a house warming party which I have been meaning to do for a while now...'
Lauren Gottileb

'My resolution is to be regular at the gym and give tough competition to bikini girls Anushka Sharma and Deepika Padukone...'
Rishina Kandhari





'I am hoping to get a nice life partner in 2014...'
Karan Sharma

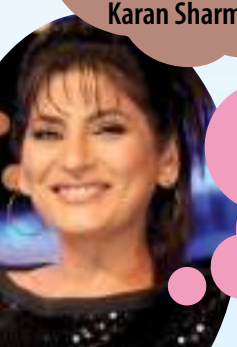




'I want to take out time for my friends and travel more with them...'
Shashank Vyas



'I want to quit smoking...'
Ronit Roy



'To lose weight without dieting...'
Archana Puran Singh

'To buy a good amount of gold as a long-term investment and go abroad at least on two small vacations with my family...'
Sachin Parikh



It was really overwhelming to receive so many Fan Mails wishing all your Favorite Actors who celebrate their Birthdays in the month of January. So, on their Birthdays, **GR8!** Wishes few of your Favorite Stars on behalf of all the readers and fans.

1st Mohammad Nazim
Shruti Bapna
Sahil Anand
Priyamvada Kant

5 Gaurav Bajaj

7 Anubhav Krishna Srivastava

8 Tanya Abrol

9 Ssharad Malhotra
Amit Mistry

10 Suresh Menon
Shishir Sharma

11 Manasi Varma
Mohit Malik

14 Nikkhil Chaddha
Sunny Goraya

17 Jaskaran Singh

20 Dolly Bindra





22 Teejay Sidhu

24 Rucha Gujarathi

26 Ibrar Yakub
Meherzan Mazda
Divyaalakshmi

27 Sumana Das

31 Nitin Vakharia





"3 film deal with Yashraj is on my wish list.."



For **Mrunal Jain** birthdays are very quiet and simple, but for his wife birthdays are special and important. Coming 9th January will be a memorable b'day for him as this is his first B'day after marriage and he is expecting a big surprise from his wife. He shares his B'Day plans, talks about his most special B'Day gift, his best birthday till date and much more with **GR8!**

Your B'Day isn't too far, how do you plan to celebrate?

Mrunal: I don't know, I usually have no big plans for my birthdays. But after marriage this is my first birthday and I am sure my wife will plan some surprise for me so I am waiting for it.

Your best B'Day till date?

Mrunal: When I was 9, I had come back from boarding school and my parents had organized a nice birthday party for me. I can never forget that birthday. It was really special for me and they made sure that everything was perfect.

What's the first thing you do on your B'Day?

Mrunal: I wake up and touch my mom & dad's feet, take their blessings and then go to the temple.

Choose one: B'Day Parties as a Kid or B'Day Bashes as an Adult?

Mrunal: B'Day Parties as a Kid. You can keep having parties as an adult but you can't go back to that time, it's something that will never come back. To relive those days, I have to wait for my kid.

The best B'Day gift you have received until now?

Mrunal: My mom and dad give me Rs. 5000 every year on my birthday and that's the best gift for me.

How did you celebrate your B'Day last year?

Mrunal: I got up took blessings of my parents, went to temple, then to shoot. Went out for lunch with friends and then dinner with family. For me birthdays are simple and private.

Lastly what is on your wish list of B'Day gifts?

Mrunal: 3 film deal with Yashraj. And once that happens then I can buy anything that's on my wish list (Smiles).

- Dharmishtha Dagia

Up, close & personal

Aniruddh Dave who was last seen in Aaj Ki Housewife Hai... Sab Jaanti Hai and recently did a cameo in Yeh Hai Aashiqui is a private person and rarely would you see him talking about anything else but his work. In this exclusive interview Aniruddh gets Up, Close & Personal with **GR8!** and shares his secrets, his first crush, unveils a few unknown facts about him and much more.

As a kid I was very notorious, conservative and an introvert.

School days were amazing. Since class first I have been very much active in the cultural activities. I always used to be on the stage and my day used to start with playing a musical instrument in the morning assembly. I used to participate in various competitions and was good at it but was ok-ok in academics.

College days were spent in coffee house, play readings and rehearsals. I used to do Theatre so I would be busy acting rather than studying.

Closest to my heart are my parents and my Guru - Paramji.

My first crush was in fifth standard when I saw the Rasna TVC. The tagline was 'I Love You Rasna' and I was love struck seeing Bhagyashree in the ad. I have seen Maine Pyar Kiya 70-80 times or even more than that and I still admire her.

One fact that people don't know about me is that except for the guitar I can play every musical instrument. Another fact that many people won't know is that ***I was honoured with Rashtrapati Puraskar in 2003.*** I am the only television actor to be honoured with this prestigious award.

My most Crazy yet Amazing Day, there isn't one such day, there are many. My theatre days, then the days when I was shooting for my first lead show Raajkumar Aaryyan.

Currently I am Dating, well that's extremely personal.

My most embarrassing moment was when I used to teach skating to students. One day, I was standing and explaining students about balancing, etc. giving them gyaan and out of nowhere one boy came and bumped into me and both of us fell down. He was skating and would have lost his balance and bumped into me when I was exactly talking about balancing. It was an accident but it was really embarrassing, I am sure all other students were controlling their laughter.

I am obsessed about mirrors. And many actors are, aren't they?

I am passionate about theatre, acting and music.

My focus is on my profession and of course my future.

I give back to the society by being a good citizen. Now I don't get time but earlier I used to take acting workshops for Theatre in Education organized by National School of Drama.

One thing without which my day is incomplete is Prayers.

My Ultimate Dream is to be known as a great performer. I want to achieve that status, *actorwala attitude toh bahut logon mein hota hai lekin outstanding performance har koi nahi de sakta.*

- Dharmishtha Dagia



Pics: Sachin Narkar

Happy! New!! Year!!!

Happy New Year to Television…

Whoa!

Okay, you are the *Fat Cat* of Indian Entertainment, today… your Commerce runs into more billions than all else, including Cinema, put together. You are the compulsory daily '*dope*' for nearly 450 million of captive viewers…1

Yippee… so you are the Shehenshah of statistics as far as the 'Biz' of the '*Show World*' goes! You are also the Mai-Baap of millions who are making the proverbial both ends meet all thanks to you… you are their *Bread, Butter… and BMW, too*!

You are an opinion-changer and how! The trial by Television can decimate the biggest of 'em to dust! Power … pelf… pizzazz - you have everything!

Or do you?
Here is a mirror…
It's a 2014, fella… Can you look at your warts in here…

Can you make your soaps reflect today's times rather than manipulating viewers into regressive values and reducing womenfolk to either doormats or plain hellcats, scheming by the kitchen sinks …?
Can you stop shoving us into the Bigg Boss (hell) house…?
Can you give us News instead of nasty sensationalism…?
Can you… Uh, well…

Can you give us a *New You* in the *New Year*…?

Happy New Year to Zee TV…

What? Wrested No. 2 spot once again… (at the time of writing, that is)?

Well – about time too! You are the *Papa* of the present–day behemoth called *Satellite TV*, ain't you? You broke the '*Babu Raj*' of *Sarkari TV* that had become just a hotbed of wheeler-dealers with creativity getting stifled by the day.

And then came the Zee juggernaut of '*Tara*', '*Chakravyuh*', '*Khandan*', '*Hasratein*', '*Sailab*' and other such path-breaking Shows that gave a new dimension to TV-programming.

Even when '*Star*' came from behind and reached top of the heap, you had kept breathing down its neck… but then, somewhere along the way you started losing your steam. By and by, it became quite a pathetic sight to see you giving ground to Colors et al that jockeyed ahead of you while you grew tediously monotonous in your programming, clinging for life onto one '*Dance India Dance*' like Sony did onto '*CID*'.

But now you seem to be shedding flab once again…
Go for the jugular then, people…
The Crown beckons you…!

Happy New Year to Kapil Sharma…

It's your hour, your day and your year as well, if you can help it. Like a meteor you have struck Indian Television and competition is reeling under the impact. Your 'Comedy Nights with Kapil' is where you can, today, say like Julius Caesar - 'I came! I saw!! I conquered!!!' (*Veni… Vidi…Vici*).

With millions eating out of your hands, you've turned yourself into some kind of a Comic cult, where people say that you do not do comedy- Comedy is You!

But watch out the pitfalls, fella! '*Success is a Whore*', as said Marlon Brando once and before one says Jack Robinson, can desert one dangling in a limbo. So watch out and don't let it go to your head.

How we long to see you lording over this adulteress still more when we wish you even a happier New Year next time!

Keep tickling the funny-bones – May the force be with you!

Happy New Year to Madhubala…

What does one say to you?

You took up a name that was a thud of nostalgia to India's heart, still aching for its lost Venus of the Silver Screen. You even placed her in the same environs as the real Madhubala was… but there ended all similarities!

In comes a hero who thinks he is *Cat's Pyjamas*! He, we are told, is a Superstar and has to be crabby and crotchety 24x7. With that hysterics take over in the form of a love(?)story between him and the pseudo Madhubala that is now torture, now torrid, now Abhiman, now awful, now… gasps!

It should be a world record of sorts in the snakes & ladders that keeps happening in your demented, delirious tale… As whines the secretary, Bittooji to the Superstar about the way he's handling the love of his life – '*storehouse se bedroom, bedroom se storehouse… hum kab tak ye karte rahenge?*'

Indeed… KAB TAK, guys?

Happy New Year to Bigg Boss…

Hey, Fishbowl…
Loving your Fish-play, ain't you?

We mean, making *fish* of one and *flesh* of another and packaging them up as an expert Fishmonger in 'sensation' sauces and 'shock' wraps, leaving us poor mortals in a spin at the sheer depravity of it all!

Just one hour of watching 'Bigg Boss' is enough for one to lose faith in humanity once and for all… '*Women*' are reduced to nothing but dartboards for every conceivable indignity, while they, themselves, too come across as more manipulative than Macbeth's witches … '*Friends*' are nothing but snakes in sleeves… '*Love*' is nothing but a circus and ditto goes for '*Hate*' as well.

We know what you're fishing for… 'Bigg Boss' is '*Big Bucks*' and that's why is stage-managed this round-the-clock Rotten-fish-exhibition…

What? No stage-managing there… did we hear that correctly? Awww… come on fishy folks, who do you think we are – some dumb crabs to be suckers for your Fish-tale?

It doesn't need Rocket Science to grasp that things, both and off-Screen, are as crooked there as a barrel of Fish-hooks…like, even the eternally foaming-at-the-mouth, Arman Kohli's dad, veteran Film-maker Rajkumar Kohli was also reportedly of the view that there is a *Director* directing all this!

Wish you would just fish off our lives…
Sigh…!

- GR8! Gang



Arti Razdan is one of Bollywood's famous tarot card readers, Reiki Grand master and Hypnotherapist. A student of psychology honours, she was attracted to spirituality at a very early age and was quite sure that she will pursue her career in that field. She spent ten years learning under one of India's most contemporary mystics Osho and since then there has been no looking back for her and has carved a niche for herself in the world of holistic healings. She predicts how 2014 will turn out for the television, TV stars, TV shows and much more. So read on to find out what 2014 holds for the TV industry...

How will the coming year be for Television & what will be the highlight of 2014..?

2014 is the time of change. There will be more of positive changes in the media industry and a lot of reality shows will commence. I do see a comeback of thrillers and detective genre.
The Highlight of 2014 - I see Kapil moving from strength to strength. He has hot Midas touch, whatever he touches will turn into gold..."



Kapil Sharma has achieved immense success on TV; will he shine on silver screen in 2014?

Yes, indeed. His success will grow in leaps and bounds and he will have great financial gains. Around the 10th month his film might release and it will do well. His popularity will grow not only because of his talent but also because of his humbleness. He will do good for the society too.

Will Devon Ke Dev... Mahadev continue to rule the mythological genre?

Another serial will come up, a serial on a women Goddess and it will garner popularity. Mahadev will continue to have his popularity but they will need to revamp to maintain consistency.



Boogie Woogie is back with a bang, will it be able to achieve the same success and popularity like earlier seasons?

It will do a fair job but to attain that popularity they need to put in a lot of effort and creativity.

2013 saw a few Bollywood stars acting in TV shows, will 2014 witness an increase in the number of Bollywood Stars on TV?

Well, 2014 will be a gateway and witness Bollywood stars acting in TV series and TV actors doing films. It will be like meeting of two rivers.



Will Amitabh Bachchan's TV show do well?

The show will garner Super duper popularity. Mr. Bachchan is unstoppable; he has blessings of so many higher forces, God, his Parents. He is driven by creative energy.

Will Jaya Bachchan's TV show do well?

It will do well. Jaya Bachchan itself is a big name and having her in a show is like cherry on the pie.

Speculations of Marriages in 2014:

Ranbir Kapoor and Katrina Kaif

The card that has come is Love. There is so much love between them that it really doesn't matter to either of them whether they declare it to the world or not. 2014 will be a deciding year for them. They have to make



choices whether they want to be committed or take a sabbatical from each other. There is a possibility of marriage.

Sushant Singh Rajput and Ankita Lokhande

I don't see marriage as such but both will do great professionally. Ankita too will be popular in her own right.



These shows have garnered immense popularity, but how will 2014 be for them..?



Balika Vadhu: The popularity will go on increasing. In fact I see them entering another phase that will go up till May/June and this track will be very much popular. Sidharth Shukla too will do very good, he just needs to improve on his spontaneity. 2014 will see him as an established actor.



Madhubala-Ek Ishq Ek Junoon: It will continue to be popular and achieve great success. In fact Vivian might move on to big screen. Drashti too will get offers.

Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai: The popularity might decline unless they make some changes and be more creative.





Uttaran: There are chances of it going off-air. They need to make some radical changes to continue and the period from June to October is critical for the show.



Bade Achhe Lagte Hain: It might gain popularity, there are huge chances. They need better writers and freshness in the story.

Film Career of TV Actors:



Sushant Singh Rajput
His career will be great; flying through the sky, just taking leaps forward in his life.



Barun Sobti
He will be doing well and his fans will be very happy as there are chances of him coming back on TV.



Manish Paul
He will do very well. The card that has come out is Star, he is going to shine like a star.

Happenings in 2014

I see Narendra Modi becoming the PM in the 2014 elections.

Lot of changes will be sweeping through the country, a kind of awakening in people.

There is a blast that will happen towards north eastern side/centre side of the country.

1 big scandal will shock the nation, it might happen around October.





Name: Debasish Karmakar

Location: Mumbai

About Me:
I am a student and modeling is my passion and my profession. I love it, I will try my best and wait for my dream to come true.

Height: 6' 00"

Weight: 65 kg

Complexion: Fair

Strength:
My strength is my confidence for my career and I am proud of my strength.

Weakness:
Actually there is no weakness in my life because I don't go back in the past.

Interests:
Acting, modeling and adventures.

Dream Role:
I love all the roles because I believe in myself but my dream role is to play the lead in an action movie.

Inspiration:
My inspiration is my brother as he has always helped me and also my dream is my biggest inspiration.



Name: Neelam Chandani

Height: 5′ 2

Weight: 50 kgs.

Complexion: Fair

Strength: Compassionate, Integrity and keen observer.

Weakness: Impulsive at times.



NUMEROLOGY

"SHREE GANESH"

SANJAY B JUMAANI

Film and TV stars, cricketers, corporate czars and the common man, everybody has gained from the Jumaani family's revival of the 5,000 year old science of Numerology. Featuring on Television, Radio and other media, they provide solutions to people from all walks of society.
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1

Bring joy and happiness to the world is the agenda that probably lingers in your mind as a New Year resolution. Your humorous nature might bring relief to unpleasant situations and help sort out things. Family get-togethers, outings with friends and making merry are likely to show an increase in your life. Your romanticism might find new takers and believers that might help you vent out your inner emotions more accurately.
SUN: Those born on the **1st, 10th, 19th** and **28th**

2

Projects initiated within this month might turn out to be more fruitful. There is a smooth sailing indicated throughout the fortnight for people in commanding positions. There might be chances that you may associate everything with a festive spirit and try to revive forgotten things.
MOON : Those born on the **2nd, 11th, 20th** and **29th**

3

Optimism is an infectious quality and when it couples with faith then things take a different hue. Your energy and sincerity will definitely go a long way to help you achieve the results. Try and not get disillusioned with disappointments, as this is synonymous with the high and low tides at sea. Keep an open ear to the suggestions given by everyone.
JUPITER : Those born on the **3rd, 12th, 21st** and **30th**

4

Meticulous planning and hard-work has helped you to achieve what you had desired and deserved. Keep your calm as haste in actions might turn things upside down and lead to stress. Probably, an action packed month is what awaits you ahead if the scheme of things falls into place the way you desired. Loved ones will help you and support in work related matters. Try and stay away from destructive criticism.
URANUS: Those born on the **4th, 13th, 22nd** and **31st**

5

You always want the best things for you and your loved ones. This week might give you an opportunity to fulfil those wishes and desires. There are chances that you might experience a dull period but don't give up hope and continue working towards your goals. Always keep in mind that time is the best healer and the worst companion, so try and manipulate it to your advantage.
MERCURY: Those born on the **5th, 14th** and **23rd**

6

The next few weeks may bring in a lot of serenity after a turmoil that has been going within you. Everything seems to fall in place like a jigsaw puzzle and the missing pieces also seem to appear miraculously. When things start unfolding in the end, the indication is of a new beginning and renewed confidence. Remember to make most of the situation and close pending chapters.
VENUS: Those born on the **6th, 15th** and **24th**

7

The month gone by might have been productive but now it's time to put into action the ideas that need to be implemented. People probably would frown at your thoughts and you might face negation but keep faith in your abilities and carry on. Time might be the only way to convince people around you and make them follow you. Impossible probabilities in life do exist sometimes.
NEPTUNE: Those born on the **7th, 16th** and **25th**

8

The graph of life is favouring you and your actions. Every step that you take seems to be blessed and proves beneficial. The results probably are coming in quicker than you expected them to. Loved ones might shower you with gifts and encourage your creativity. Your dependence on certain things/ people might slowly diminish giving you relief and happiness.
SATURN: Those born on the **8th, 17th** and **26th**

9

You are trying to learn the balancing act and change yourself for the benefit of others. Your concern and consideration would be accepted by others. Things might not change drastically overnight but you might probably be able to see the wheel turning in your favour. Keep working with the energy inherent in you and it will generate the desired solutions.
MARS: Those born on the **9th, 18th** and **27th**

TAROSCOPE by Arti Razdan



You can mail on artirazdan@ymail.com or call on 9820043576



ARIES - EMPEROR (March 21 - April 20)

The new year for you brings gains and profits. Financially there is a turnaround in your situation. You can see light at the end of the tunnel. The new year fills you with a lot of zest, energy and enthusiasm as you go about doing your work. Professionally your efforts are well recognized. Emotionally you feel a little drained as there are too many expectations from you and you are feeling tired fulfilling them. Take it easy on yourself, this is the last phase of burning karmas and there is a new beginning after this. You will be making plans to invest in a new property. **Lucky Colour -** Red, Orange; **Lucky Number -** 9; **Lucky Day -** Monday
Lucky Gem Stone and Crystal - Coral, Ruby, Carnelian, Garnet, Aventurine.



TAURUS - HIEROPHANT (April 21 - May 21)

The new year brings hope and a promise of new and fresh energies in your life. You may have been passing through a very dark and dismal phase but you are now reaching a breakthrough point largely due to your own efforts and resilience. You are very good at heart and wont step on any one's toes to get what you want. Because of your inner goodness you are able to overcome the difficult patches in your life. There are a lot of interferences from people and you need to listen with an open and impartial ear. Some people who appear sweet could be very deceptive. A new project brings you success and makes your creativity come alive. Children need your love and special attention. Try not to be stubborn as this will create obstacles in your path. Your financial position will become stronger in the second half of the year. Hold on to your job, it's not yet time to change. **Lucky Colour -** Blue; **Lucky Number -** 6; **Lucky Day -** Friday; **Lucky Gem Stone and Crystal -** Emerald, Golden Topaz, Lapis Lazuli, Malachite.



GEMINI - THE LOVERS (May 22 - June 21)

A new beginning for you this year. You are able to bring to completion many projects that you have been working on. It's time to de clutter your life and sort out your priorities. Emotional issues have been taking up too much of your time and now you need to concentrate on yourself. This year is going to be full of adventures and taking risks. A light flirtation is on the cards. Finances and security is uppermost in your mind and you spare no effort to ensure that your work and money are in place. Your shyness may be misconstrued for arrogance. You need to be kinder to your colleagues and remember that the men behind you are the friends you may need later on. Adopting and caring for an animal will bring you much joy. Financially a good year. Those of you who are single may have good offers of marriage or partnership.
Lucky Colour - Violet; **Lucky Number -** 5; **Lucky Day -** Thursday; **Lucky Gem Stone and Crystal -** Aquamarine, Crystal, Chrysocolla, Agate.



CANCER - THE CHARIOT (June 22 - July 23)

New year brings you expansion and growth. It's time for you to sparkle and shine in whatever you do. Take courage, you need to break free from your limitations from the false beliefs that bind you and emerge like the sun shining resplendently. Financially this is the year to build your securities and your investments wisely. Your boss will be very good with you, however jealousy from a colleague will cause you some heartburn. You may feel a little disappointed with your partner as he or she may not be very vocal about their feelings to you. Try to see the bigger picture their actions may mean more than their words. The more you focus on your work the better you will feel. Travel overseas is indicated. Children's future education will be something you will be thinking and planning for in the mid year. Stomach ailments could cause you a temporary setback. A marriage proposal is on the cards for your daughter if she is single. **Lucky Colour -** Green; **Lucky Number -** 2; **Lucky Day -** Monday; **Lucky Gem Stone and Crystal -** Emerald, Moonstone, Pearl, Amber.



LEO - LUST (July 24 - August 23)

Royal lions this year is a roller coaster ride! You will be taking decisions on important matters which have been hanging for quite a while. A project which has not been making money may need a total revamping or a management change. You will need to examine all the details in order to fix it. A relationship which is not working out is also causing you some anxiety. Sometimes change even though painful is for our growth. There are much better times ahead as you move on with crystal energy into your new and improved project. You may also meet someone with whom you will feel very attracted and this may blossom into a sweet summer romance. Financially you need to take care of your impulsive extravagance. Overall a profitable year. Investment in land or property will be very good for you. Do seek legal advice and check the papers before buying. This is also a good time to settle out any long standing legal disputes. **Lucky Colour -** Orange; **Lucky Number -** 1; **Lucky Day -** Sunday; **Lucky Gem Stone and Crystal -** Ruby, Amber, Carnelian, Garnet.



VIRGO - THE HERMIT (August 24 - September 23)

Love is in the air for you dear Virgos! This year unfolds the magic of meeting somebody very special and falling head over heels in love. This is a very important year for you to lay down your foundations. Taking advice from someone older will be very beneficial. There could be a lot of petty politics in your office but don't worry your boss will listen to your side, your work will speak for itself. Blessings from your mother or an older lady will be very lucky for you. Be careful of the words you speak as you could end up hurting someone. Pampering your wife will help you to smoothen out the rough edges that have been recently causing you some tension. The first half of the year is good to get your licensing and government work done A very prosperous year for those in creative business. A lot of work related travel is indicated. You may acquire property or land this year.
Lucky Colour - Violet; **Lucky Number -** 3; **Lucky Day -** Tuesday; **Lucky Gem Stone and Crystal -** Turquoise, Pink Jasper, Peridot, Rutilated Quartz.



LIBRA - ADJUSTMENT (September 24 - October 22)

Work is worship for you in the coming new year and there is tremendous energy of work getting generated around you. Wheels of action and communication are turning positively. A very good time for those in creative media to expand their vision and shine in their field. It helps to focus your energies so you can enjoy later. Many of you will also explore the spiritual side. A message from a master or a revelation in a moment of sublime silence holds the key to something that you have been wanting to seek guidance for in your life. You will have many intuitions, dreams, déjà vu about events. The unknown will attract you this year to unveil its mystery. Financially a good year for you. You may think of changing your job in the midyear. Children will take up much of your energy though the younger child may need more attention particularly in the studies. Your spouse may surprise you with a beautiful gift. **Lucky Colour -** Yellow; **Lucky Number -** 2; **Lucky Day -** Monday; **Lucky Gem Stone and Crystal -** Diamond, Opal, Sunstone, Jade.



SCORPIO - DEATH (October 23 - November 22)

Sexy scorpions you will learn to overcome situations and people who were difficult to handle in the past. You may have a change in job or profession and may also start a new project. This year it may give you handsome profits. Allow yourself to explore your creative potential, being adventurous and taking calculated risks. This is the year for you to build something new for yourself. A powerful and deep romance is on the cards for you. Those of you who are single may receive a marriage proposal. A few moments shared with that someone special may make you feel like you have known the person for life times. Spirituality, meeting masters, gurus seeking higher wisdom will give you much solace. You may also have a spooky encounter which will get you thinking..! You will consolidate your position financially this year and you will build your savings and investments. Overseas travel is indicated around midyear. **Lucky Colour -** Red; **Lucky Number -** 4; **Lucky Day -** Wednesday; **Lucky Gem Stone and Crystal -** Garnet, Topaz, Coral, Agate, Malachite.



SAGITTARIUS - ART (November 23 - December 22)

The new year infuses you with fresh new energies of joy and aliveness. This is the year for your name and fame to grow, for expansion in ideas and creativity. At work you will do well this year. You could receive a promotion, bonus or a good appraisal. You might also be selected for a special training programme. Emotionally however certain relationships are still very draining on you. You need to balance yourself. You care too much for people and when they don't care back for you, it feels very tiring and you tend to lose your temper. There may be some legal issues that need to be dealt with this year. Be careful before you make any investments, double check if they are safe as there is a danger that you may lose money trusting the wrong people. Socially you will be the live wire of the party. You may also find an inner awakening making you feel and contribute towards a good cause. **Lucky Colour -** Purple; **Lucky Number -** 3 ; **Lucky Day -** Tuesday; **Lucky Gem Stone and Crystal -** Amethyst, Topaz, Turquoise, Smoky Quartz.



CAPRICORN - THE DEVIL (December 23- January 20)

There are new beginnings for you this year, a whole new chapter opens. You may meet someone with whom you feel a lot of possibilities, like minds, humour and a stirring of passion. Work will pick up speed and momentum towards the middle of the year. Two people that you meet will play a very important role in your professional arena. A new creative project may begin around middle of this year finally after a long and tiring wait. Financially you will make good money and profits this year. This is however not yet the time for you to change your job, wait just a little more for something better. Your husband's behaviour has been making you feel very uneasy. Try to address the issues calmly. You may be sensing a third person's presence in your relationship. Be wise and tactful, find the truth before you make allegations. Your elder child needs to feel your love and warmth, so not dump your anger on your children. **Lucky Colour -** Blue; **Lucky Number -** 8; **Lucky Day -** Sunday; **Lucky Gem Stone and Crystal -** Smoky Quartz, Beryl, Jet, Onyx.



AQUARIUS - THE STAR (January 21 - February 19)

The time for the blue lotus of peace to blossom has finally come in the new year. Interferences from other people that were confusing you are now getting solved. You are able to get clarity on which path you need to take. At work there may be some people who are jealous of you but pay no attention to them. Concentrate on your work, they will soon move on. There is a lot of enjoyment and pleasure in the second half of the year. You will make good financial gains this year. You may also receive help from your sibling. For most of you it is a stable time emotionally. You may find yourself contributing to just causes or trying to reach out and help someone unconditionally. This is also a very strong phase for you to stop abuse either to yourself or to someone around you. You need to take courage and stand for what is right. There are a lot of healing energies around you this year. Dive in and make the most of it. **Lucky Colour -** Indigo; **Lucky Number -** 3; **Lucky Day -** Tuesday; **Lucky Gem Stone and Crystal -** Blue Sapphire, Aquamarine, Labradorite.



PISCES - THE MOON (February 20 - March 20)

The new year brings you the gift of luxury! After a long wait the time is finally changing, you are moving into a year of positivity. Work and meetings which have been stuck for a long time are finally going to happen. Professionally you make progress, your efforts are bearing fruits. In law's critical tongue will upset you but have patience as this will soon pass. Those of you in the creative and entertainment industry this is the year to sparkle and shine. Do not miss good opportunities that are coming your way. Appearances are deceptive someone who is being sugar and honey to you now will be gossiping about you. So be careful who you trust. Property buying and selling will take place towards the end of the year. A spiritual journey and a pilgrimage is on the cards for you. Your intuitions will be very strong. Learn to listen to your inner voice as it guides you to higher wisdom. **Lucky Colour -** Indigo; **Lucky Number -** 4; **Lucky Day -** Wednesday; **Lucky Gem Stone and Crystal -** Diamond, Jade, Aquamarine, Moonstone, Blue Lace Agate.



Rohit Roy is television's fittest and most stylish actor. Recently seen anchoring The Bachelorette India, Rohit (married to Manasi Joshi Roy and the father of an 11-year-old daughter) still has the charisma of an eligible bachelor that attracts girls to him. However, he prefers to be appreciated more for his acting and characters than his sex appeal and style quotient.

What does Style mean to you?
Primarily, comfort. Secondly, it means dressing for the occasion. I'm not a trend follower but I'm certainly updated.

Would you be able to dress in 1000 bucks?
Yes, there was a time when I used to shop at Fashion Street. Anyone with a little sense of style can do it. Style is not only about wearing brands.

What are the must haves in your wardrobe?
Black suits, white shirts, a couple of casual white t-shirts and a good pair of blue denims. You can never go wrong with them.

How many pairs of shoes do you own?
I guess close to 100. For guys, shoes are the only fashion accessory.

If you were the Fashion Police who would you arrest?
Rakhi Sawant should be behind bars forever for her fashion *faux pas*. And my friend Rituparna Sengupta, she is pretty but a little change in her styling will work wonders.

How are you as a Husband?
A typical Arian, it's difficult to live with me and my temperament.

And as a Father?
The world' s best!

How important is fitness for you?
Most important. When you are 20, you eat and drink anything… *sab chal jata hai,* but at 30 your metabolic rate goes down. I gym at least two hours a day. A balanced diet is as important as exercising.

A bad habit you want to change?
My impatience. I used to be very impatient with people, not understanding that some people are fast and some are slow and what is important is that the work should be done efficiently and not necessarily fast.

TV or Films?
TV has great reach and you get immediate response for your performance. Films give you time to prepare. So an actor can research and rehearse before the shoot schedule commences.

One role you would die to play?
It used to be Amitabh Bachchan's in *Deewar* but times have changed and so have I. Now my dream role is Robert De Niro's in *Raging Bull*.

What do you watch on TV?
Sports, News, American sitcoms. I used to see *Friends* regularly and now it's *Dexter*. I am a big fan of *Bigg Boss* and also like *Madhubala*. I also follow Anil Kapoor's *24*.

Would you rather read a book or watch TV?
I wish I could read a book. But the only thing I read is the newspaper and my film script. So to disassociate with it I watch TV.

- Dharmishtha Dagia